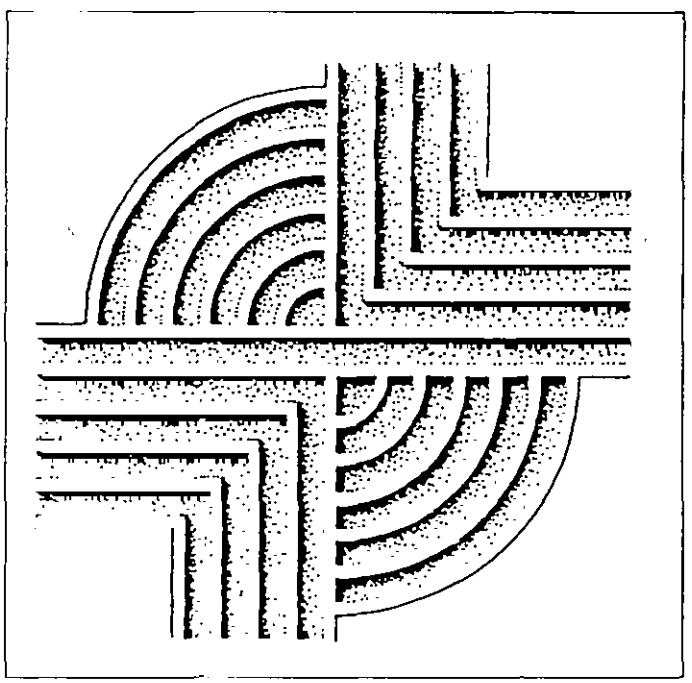
INTENSIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CRESCENT PLANTATION, BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA



CHICORA RESEARCH CONTRIBUTION 226

INTENSIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CRESCENT PLANTATION, BEAUFORT COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA

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Chicora Research Contribution 226

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ABSTRACT

This study reports on an intensive archaeological survey of an approximately 650 acre tract known as Crescent Plantation. The property is situated north of Fording Island Road (now known as U.S. 278) between Rose Hill to the west and lands primarily held by the S.C. Department of Natural Resources to the east. To the north the tracts primarily front marsh of Sawmill Creek and the Colleton River.

The study was conducted at the request of Centex Homes in compliance with a Beaufort County Ordinance (Section 6.5 of Article VI of the Zoning and Development Standards Ordinance) which requires an archaeological evaluation as part of the land planning process. This tract, as well as approximately 150 acres of adjoining property forming a portion of Trimblestone Plantation, had been previously examined at a reconnaissance level about a month earlier. Based on the findings of the reconnaissance level investigation, this intensive survey was undertaken.

The background research for the reconnaissance level study included contacting the South Carolina Department of Archives and History with a request for information concerning any National Register of Historic Places buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects in the study area, as well as the results of any structures surveys which may have been completed in the study area. There are no sites in their files which are on the National Register and there has been no previous architectural surveys in this area. We also checked the master site files held by the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology for any previously recorded archaeological sites in the project area. Although a number of sites had been recorded for the adjacent Belfair tract to the west and northwest, no sites were known for the study tract.

In addition to utilizing our in-house documentation, including Chicora's previous cartographic survey of Beaufort County, we also conducted title search for the tracts at the Beaufort County Register of Mesne Conveyances, as well as additional historical research at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History, the South Carolina Historical Society, the Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyances, and cartographic research at the Thomas Cooper Map Repository.

These studies have traced the survey tract back at least to the antebellum and reveal that while the parcel was known as a plantation, it appears to have been a minor holding.

Our field investigations focused on the excavation of shovel tests, primarily at 100-foot intervals, since the bulk of the tract was either in woods or in overgrown fields. Some areas of the survey tract, because of low, wet soils and the distance from marsh or creek frontage, were surveyed using shovel tests at 200-foot intervals.

As a result of our intensive investigations on the tract, ten archaeological sties have been identified and recorded with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology as 38BU1711 through 38BU1715, and 38BU1720 through 38BU1724. Four of these sites contain both prehistoric and historic components, three sites include only prehistoric remains, and three additional sites revealed only historic materials.

Of these ten sites, eight are recommended as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, one site (38BU1713) is recommended eligible for inclusion on the National Register and one site (38BU1715) is recommended as potentially eligible.

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INTRODUCTION

Background

A reconnaissance level investigation of the Crescent and Trimblestone plantations development tract was conducted by Dr. Michael Trinkley of Chicora Foundation, Inc. for Mr. Jay Thrower, Area Manager of Centex Homes, Coastal Carolina South in late May 1997. The study tract consisted of two distinct parcels – about 650 acres known as Crescent Plantation and about 148 acres which was cut off of Trimblestone Plantation. Both are situated north of U.S. 278 and the Town of Bluffton, in Colleton River area just before crossing over to Hilton Head Island (Figure 1).

The Crescent Plantation area has seen considerable development. To the west are the Belfair and Rose Hill tracts. To the east there are a number of smaller housing developments and what might be referred to as "strip malls." Also to the east of the study area is a large tract owned by the S.C. Department of Natural Resources, part of which is a Heritage Trust Area.

As a result of that study (Trinkley 1997), seven sites were identified (38BU1711 through 38BU1717). We recommended that additional historical research be conducted for the survey tract in an effort to more fully reconstruct its ownership. Further, we recommended that the tract be subjected to an intensive archaeological survey, incorporating into our reconnaissance level investigation a map of the tract, providing a tentative assessment of site probability and survey recommendations for the different areas.

On June 3, Centex Homes requested that Chicora prepare a technical and budgetary proposal for undertaking the recommended intensive study. This was prepared and submitted that same day. It was approved by Centex Homes on June 4, with the field investigations being conducted from Monday, June 9 through Friday, June 13. The principal investigator for the project was Dr. Michael Trinkley. The field crew included Mr. Gregg Dickey, Mr. Ian Hamer, Mr. Hollis Lawrence, and Mr. Brian Young. A total of 207.5 person hours were spent conducting the survey.

The study tract is bordered to the west and along a portion of the south by other developments. Much of the southern boundary runs along U.S. 278, previously known as Fording Island Road. A small portion of the northern boundary is also on an existing development (known as Belfair), while most fronts Sawmill Creek marsh. The eastern boundary includes a small housing project along U.S. 278, portions of Trimbleton Plantation, and the Heritage Trust lands of Victoria Bluff (Figure 2). The portion of Trimbleton Plantation incorporated into the reconnaissance level study was excluded from this intensive survey.

Additional historical research was conducted by the principal investigator on June 16 and June 17. The collections of the South Carolina Historical Society were examined and an effort was made to locate duplicate copies of early antebellum deeds in the Charleston County Register of Mesne Conveyance.

The laboratory work was conducted at the Chicora labs in Columbia on June 18 and June 19. During this work all materials were evaluated for conservation needs. No materials were found which warranted conservation treatments. Additional information concerning curation is available at the end of this section.

Goals and Methods

The primary goals of this study were, first, to identify the archaeological resources of the survey area and, second, to assess the ability of those resources to contribute significant archaeological, historical, or anthropological data. The second aspect essentially involves the site's

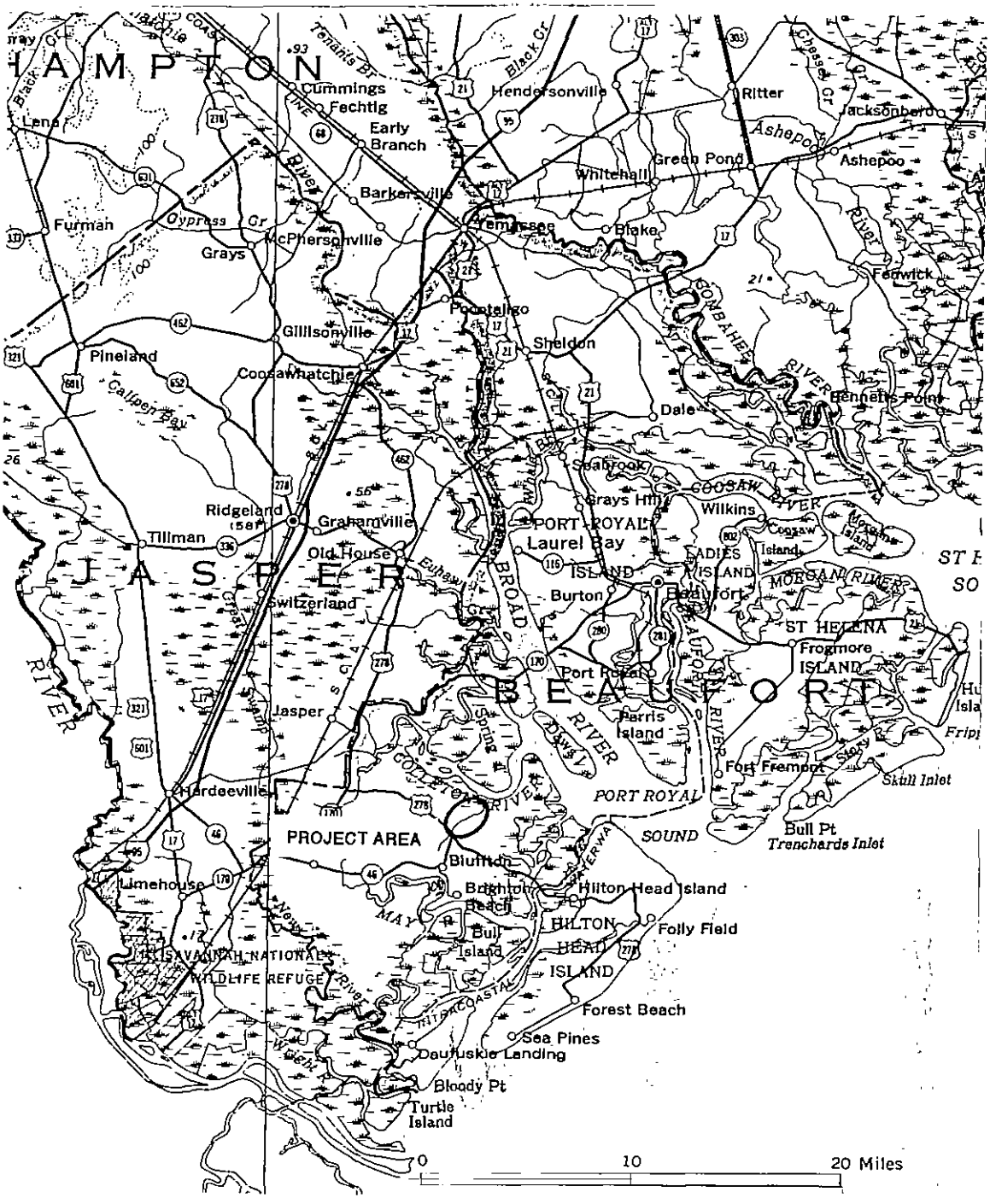

Figure 1. Vicinity of Beaufort County and the project area (base maps is USGS South Carolina 1:500,000).

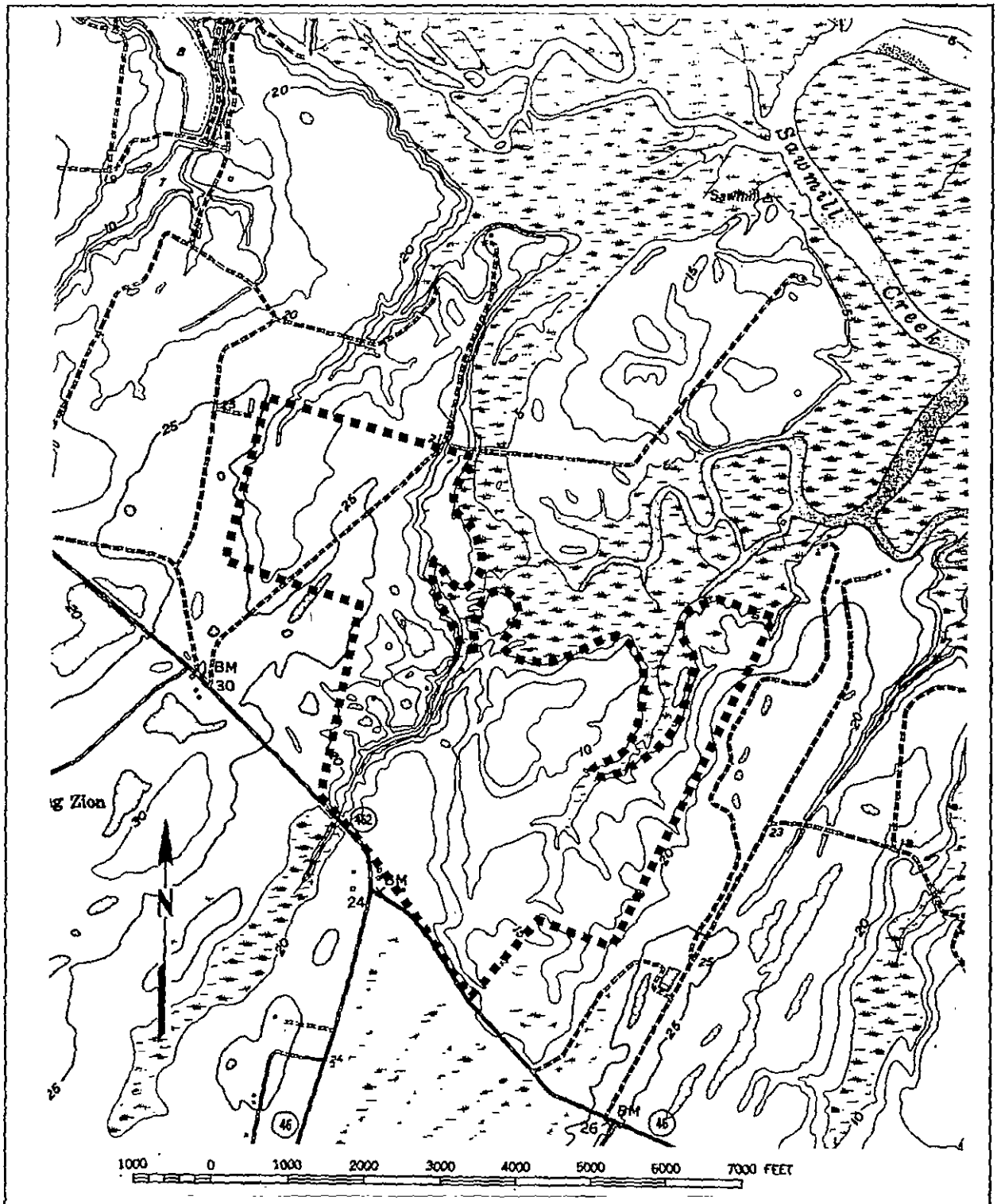

Figure 2. A portion of the USGS Spring Island 7.5' topographic map showing the project area.

eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places, although Chicora Foundation only provides an opinion of National Register eligibility and the final determination is made by the lead compliance agency in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer at the South Carolina Department of Archives and History.

The previous reconnaissance level study found the tract consisted of both dense woods and heavily overgrown fields with limited surface visibility. Figure 3 was developed to provide a generalized overview of the area's archaeological potential, showing three levels of archaeological survey.

Areas of high archaeological probability were defined as those which exhibited one or more characteristics:

- well drained soils, typically Wando or occasionally Seewee;
- higher elevations, especially when compared to the immediate surroundings;
- close proximity to marsh or swamp slough environs; and
- marsh edge areas with distinct bluffs and generally closer proximity to water.

These areas were thought to exhibit the highest potential for archaeological remains. In fact, five of the seven sites identified in the reconnaissance level study were found in the areas defined as high probability.

These areas warrant survey using shovel testing at intervals of no more than every 100 feet on transects spaced no further apart than every 100 feet. It was suggested that while this was appropriate for the wooded sections, it might be possible to plow the extant fields, allowing better surface visibility and permitting a pedestrian survey in these areas. Timing, however, did not allow this approach and they, too, were subjected to shovel testing.

Areas of medium archaeological probability were those which exhibited one or more characteristics:

- moderately drained soils, typically Seewee or occasionally Baratari when associated with a slough edge; and
- close proximity to marsh or swamp slough environs; and

These areas were thought to exhibit an intermediate potential for archaeological remains. While five of the seven sites identified in the preliminary study were found in high probability areas, the remaining two were found in medium probability areas.

We again suggested that plowing and a pedestrian survey would be the most cost-effective, and likely most revealing survey technique. If this was not possible, we recommended that shovel tests be conducted at 200 foot intervals on transects spaced every 200 feet. A sampling strategy should be developed to provide closer interval testing, as a check against the possibility that this testing may miss smaller, yet potentially significant, sites.

Areas of low archaeological probability were defined as those which exhibited one or more characteristics:

- poorly to very poorly drained soils, typically Baratari, Rosedhue, and Polawana series;
- areas of standing water or which exhibit a water table within the upper 1.0 foot of soil and which exhibit characteristically reduced soils; and
- areas with very low topography, especially relative to nearby areas.

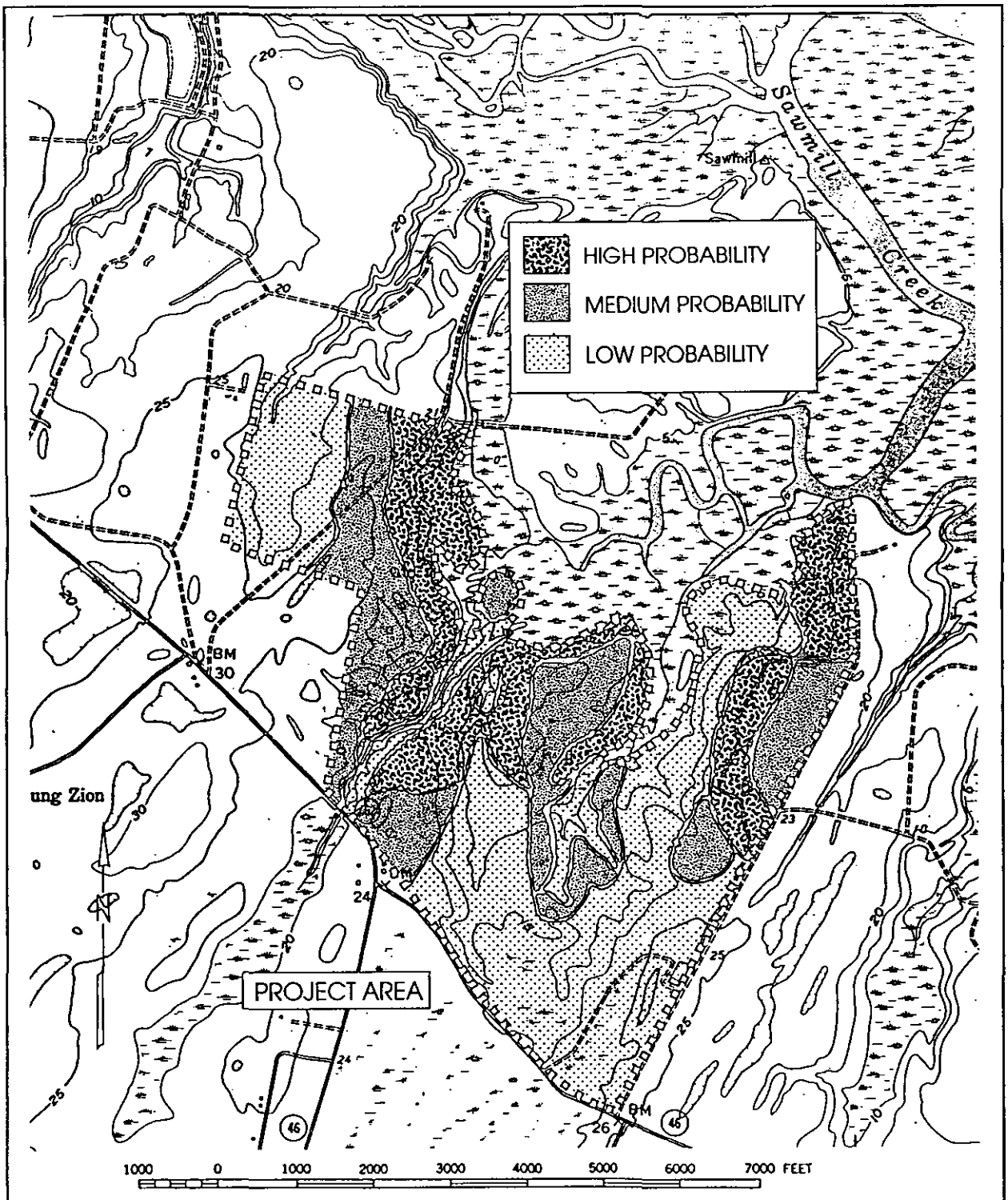

Figure 3. Projected site probabilities for the Crescent Plantation tract (adapted from Trinkley 1997:Figure 20).

These areas are thought to exhibit a low to very low potential for archaeological remains. Although several such areas were examined during the reconnaissance level study, no archaeological sites were found. In addition, while shell was frequently found dispersed in the fields at higher elevations, shell was never observed in these lower soils.

Although the likelihood of discovering archaeological sites in these areas was thought to be very low, we recommended that they still be inspected wherever possible. One option, if the woods were sufficiently open to permit walking transects spaced 200 feet apart, that this approach be implemented.

These recommendations were implemented with only minor modifications. All of the high probability areas were examined using shovel tests at 100 foot intervals along transects spaced 100 feet apart. In addition, about half of the moderate probability areas were also surveyed using shovel tests at 100 foot intervals along transects spaced 100 feet apart. In the remaining 50% of the moderate probability areas we implemented shovel testing at 200 foot intervals along transects spaced 200 feet apart. In the areas of low probability, we conducted pedestrian survey with judgmental shovel testing (both to confirm soil conditions and also to explore unusual features). In addition, a few areas of the survey tract, limited to about 40 acres along the western edge and 50 acres in the central portion, were not surveyed because of consistently low, wet soils and very dense vegetation. Figure 4 reveals the level of survey used during the current study.

For the purpose of this study a site is identified as three or more artifacts within a 25-foot area. The boundaries of sites in open fields were marked and then additional, closer interval passes were made through the area to collect a representative sample of exposed materials. None of the sites were subjected to intensive, or controlled, surface collections.

Sites identified either through the shovel testing or through surface collections were subjected to close interval (50-foot) shovel testing on a cruciform through the site. In several cases the level of site testing exceeded simple cruciform testing, providing an extra degree of certainty regarding the site evaluation. The site testing allowed information to be gathered on subsurface remains, soil conditions, and also on site boundaries.

All shovel tests were about 1-foot square and were excavated to subsoil, typically 1.0 to 1.5 feet in depth. All fill was screened through ¼-inch mesh with the tests backfilled immediately afterwards. All materials recovered from shovel testing, except brick and mortar which were noted and discarded in the field, were bagged. Shovel tests were sequentially numbered.

Notes were retained on representative shovel tests and photographs were taken of individual sites if warranted in the opinion of the field director. At each site the information necessary for the completion of a South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology site form was collected.

Once identified, sites were evaluated for their potential eligibility for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. This assessment process follows that outlined by Townsend et al. (1993) in *National Register Bulletin* 36. This evaluative processes involves five steps, forming a clearly defined, explicit rationale for either the site's eligibility or lack of eligibility. Briefly, these steps are:

- identification of the site's data sets or categories of archaeological information such as artifacts, subsistence remains, architectural remains, or sub-surface features;

- identification of the historic context applicable to the site, providing a framework for the evaluative process;

- identification of the important research questions the site *might* be able to address, given the data

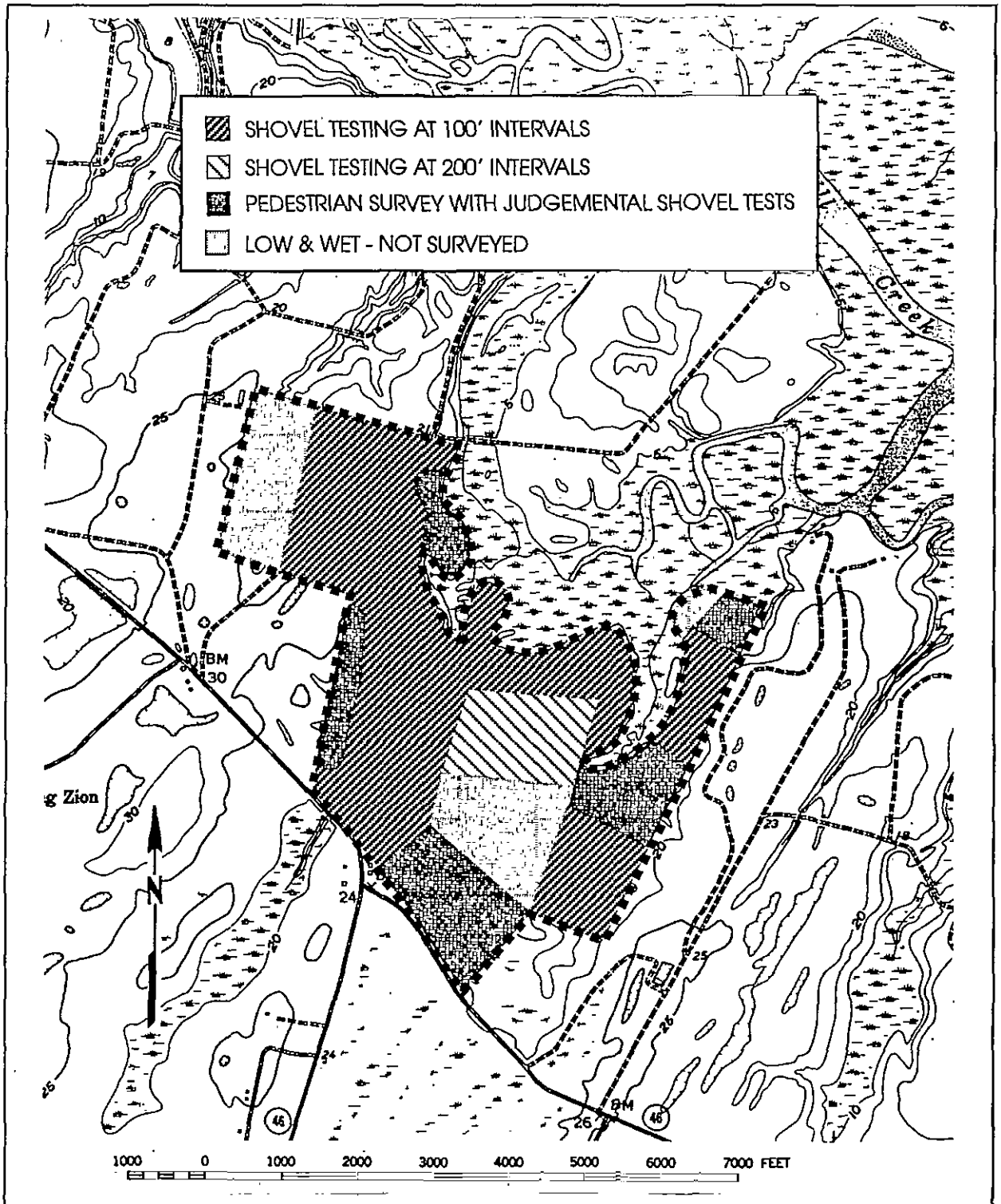

Figure 4. Survey methods used during the intensive investigation of the Crescent Plantation tract.

sets and the context;

- evaluation of the site's archaeological integrity to ensure that the data sets are sufficiently well preserved to address the research questions; and

- identification of "important" research questions among all of those which might be asked and answered at the site.

Taking each of these steps individually, the first is simply to determine what is present at the site — for example, are features present, what types of artifacts are present, from what period does the site date? This represents the collection of basic, and essential, information concerning the site and the types of research contributions it can offer. Obviously there is no reason to propose research on eighteenth century plantation development if only early twentieth century ceramics are present. Nor is it perhaps appropriate to explore questions focused on subsistence if no faunal materials are present in the collection. This first step is typically addressed through the survey investigations, often with supporting documentation provided by historic research.

Next, it is important to understand the historic context of the site — what is the history of the project area and of the specific locality? Research questions must be posed with an understanding of this context and the context helps to direct the focus of research. The development of a historic context can be a lengthy process. The historic synopsis in this study provides a preliminary context for a wide range of different site types, although we recognize that it many ways it is superficial and lacking in detail.

Associated with the development of the context is the formation of research questions ***applicable to the site, its context, and its data sets.*** Often this research will grow out of previous projects in the area. Certainly topics of exceptional interest continue to be the examination of Middle Woodland ceramics and settlement systems, the spread of eighteenth and nineteenth century plantations into the Lower Coastal Plain, and the development and lifeways of tenancy in the region. Each of these topics is more fully discussed in the following historic overview.

Next it is essential to compare the data sets with the research questions — the information necessary to address the research questions must be present at the site, else posing the question is meaningless in the evaluative process. Focusing on small projects, it may be more appropriate to concentrate on only one or perhaps two research questions and devote the energy necessary to fully explore them, then to propose a range of questions which can be only superficially explored with the data sets or resources available.

Finally, Townsend et al. recognize that not all research questions are of equal importance and that only those of fairly high value should be considered in the evaluation of National Register eligibility. Of all the steps this may be the most difficult to address. Some research questions proposed may seem pedestrian. Our society has viewed history as great events happening to great individuals. Many view architectural significance with the same jaundiced eye — significance being equated with white columns and famous architects. And certainly if the available archaeological studies of low country plantations are examined, there is a similar bias toward big plantations with relatively grand lifeways. Curiously, we know much less about the common planter, the yeoman farmer, or the tenant — and their probably more vernacular architecture — than we do about the famous or the high style. Some historians have referred to the common man as the "invisible person." Others have offered some understanding using the concept of the "marginal man." It is consequently important to understand that significance of archaeological research questions is not judged from the perspective of the wealth, or power, or prestige of the historic persons involved. It is judged from the perspective of what the research can tell us about the past that traditional historical research cannot.

This approach, of course, has been developed for use documenting eligibility of sites

actually being nominated to the National Register of Historic Places where the evaluation process must stand alone, with relatively little reference to other documentation where only, typically, one discrete site is being considered. In the case of survey evaluations some modifications of the approach seem reasonable, if not actually essential. Regardless, the approach advocated by Townsend et al. encourages researchers to carefully consider, and justify, their recommendations regarding National Register eligibility.

Curation

Archaeological site forms have been filed with the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. The field notes and artifacts resulting from these investigations will be curated with that institution using their proveniencing system which consists of site number-site provenience number- artifact number.

ENVIRONMENTAL BACKGROUND

Physiography

Beaufort County is located in the lower Atlantic Coastal Plain of South Carolina and is bounded to the south and southeast by the Atlantic Ocean, to the east by St. Helena Sound, to the north and northeast by the Combahee River, to the west by Jasper and Colleton counties and portions of the New and Broad rivers. The mainland primarily consists of nearly level lowlands and low ridges. Elevations range from about sea level to slightly over 100 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) (Mathews et al. 1980:134-135).

The topography of the tract appears fairly level at first, but this is largely biased by most observers failure to take into account the subtle ridge and swale topography which characterizes much of the low country. Closer inspection reveals considerable diversity, largely the result of numerous drainages. The headwaters of a small slough are found in the northwest corner of the study tract and another drainage cuts through the middle of the tract, crossing US 278. Between these two the tract reveals elevations of about 25 feet AMSL, with elevations falling off to the northwest and east.

Although the topography rises up from the central drainage to the east, the area to the immediate east tends to be low and, in areas, very wet. Elevations in this central area range from around 10 to 15 feet AMSL. A third drainage is found in the eastern third of the parcel, also running southward from Sawmill Creek. East of this drainage the ground rises more noticeably to about 20 feet AMSL.

Climate

In the early nineteenth century the Beaufort climate was described as "one of the healthiest" (Mills 1826:377), although Thomas Chaplin's antebellum journal describing life at nearby Tombee Plantation on St. Helena Island presents an entirely different picture (Rosengarten 1987). In 1864 Charlotte Forten wrote that "yellow fever prevailed to an alarming extent, and that, indeed the manufacture of coffins was the only business that was at all flourishing (Forten 1864:588).

The major climatic controls of the area are latitude, elevation, distance from the ocean, and location with respect to the average tracks of migratory cyclones. The project's latitude of about 32° 20'N places it on the edge of the balmy subtropical climate typical of Florida. As a result, there are relatively short, mild winters and long, warm, humid summers. The large amount of nearby warm ocean water surface produces a maritime climate, which tends to moderate both the cold and hot weather. The Appalachian Mountains, about 220 miles to the northwest, block shallow cold air masses from the northwest, moderating them before they reach the sea islands (Landers 1970:2-3; Mathews et al. 1980:46).

Maximum daily temperatures in the summer tend to be near or above 90°F and the minimum daily temperatures tend to be about 68°F. The summer water temperatures average 83°F. The abundant supply of warm, moist and relatively unstable air produces frequent scattered shatters and thunderstorms in the summer. Winter has average daily maximum and minimum temperatures of 63°F and 38°F respectively. Precipitation is in the form of rain associated with fronts and cyclones; snow is uncommon (Janiskee and Bell 1980:1-2).

The average yearly precipitation is 49.4 inches, with 34 inches occurring from April through October, the growing season for most low country crops. Nearby Hilton Head Island has approximately 285 frost free days annually (Janiskee and Bell 1980:1; Landers 1970). This mild climate, as Hilliard (1984:13) notes, is largely

responsible for the presence of many southern crops, such as cotton and sugar cane.

The coastal area is at a moderately high risk of tropical storms, with 169 hurricanes being documented from 1686 through 1972 (Mathews et al. 1980:56). The last Category 5 hurricane which hit this area was the August 27, 1893 storm which had winds of 120 miles per hour and a storm surge of 17 to 19.5 feet. Over 1,000 people in South Carolina were reported killed by this storm (Mathews et al. 1980:55). Other notable historic storms have occurred in 1700, 1752, 1804, 1813, and 1885.

Geology and Soils

The coastal region is covered in sands and clays originally derived from the Appalachian Mountains and which are organized into coastal, fluvial, and aeolian deposits. These were transported to the coast during the Quaternary period and were deposited on bedrock of the Mesozoic Era and Tertiary period. These sedimentary bedrock formations are only occasionally exposed on the coast, although they frequently outcrop along the fall line (Mathews et al. 1980:2).

The Pleistocene sediments are organized into topographically distinct, but lithologically similar terraces parallel to the coast. These terraces have elevations ranging from 215 feet down to sea level. The terraces, representing previous sea floors, were apparently formed at high stands of the fluctuating, though falling, Atlantic Ocean and consist chiefly of sand and clay (Cooke 1936).

The mainland soils are Pleistocene in age and tend to have more distinct horizon development and diversity than the younger soils of the Sea Islands. Sandy to loamy soils predominate in the level to gently sloping mainland areas. The topography is generally reflected in the soil survey for the tract.

Five soil series dominate the study tract (Figure 5) and three are poorly to very poorly drained. The Baratari, Polawana, and Rosedhue soils all have at least seasonal water tables within 0 to 1.0 foot of the surface. The Polawana and Rosedhue soils are either frequently or commonly flooded. The Baratari soils are found on broad, low areas and are saturated with water for at least six months out of the year. These soils exhibit very reduced soil profiles because of saturation (Stuck 1980:59, 79-81). A horizons have black (10YR2/1) to light gray (10YR6/1) sands ranging from about a foot to as deep as nearly 2.8 feet, overlying B horizons of dark reddish brown (5YR2/2) or C horizons of very dark grayish brown (10YR3/2) sands.

It is not common to identify either historic or prehistoric sites on these soils, usually because of the poor drainage and frequent flooding. Problematic, however, are small areas or "islands" of better drained soils which do support occupation in the midst of these poorly drained soils. Although not common, this type of setting has been identified in some areas along the coast.

Also present on the tracts are Seewee soils, characterized as somewhat poorly drained and exhibiting an Ap horizon of dark brown (10YR2/2) sand overlying A12 horizon of dark grayish brown (10YR4/2) sand (Stuck 1980:83). The Wando soils on the tract are excessively drained and have a dark brown (10YR4/3) A horizon overlying a C horizon of brown (10YR5/3) to pale yellow (2.5YR7/4) sand (Stuck 1980:85). These tend to exhibit fairly high site densities.

Capers soils are found on tidal flats and along the lower reaches of larger streams that empty into the tidal flats. These soils are flooded by brackish water or saltwater at least twice per month and, in some places, twice daily. They are typically not associated with archaeological sites.

Floristics

Originally the entire tract was likely dominated by mixed hardwoods, particularly live oak and palmetto on the higher soils. These areas would likely have been very similar to maritime forests. On the lower, inland soils there were likely areas of what today are called "Florida Scrub" — pine flatwoods which often have slight depressions and ridges characterized by a dense woody pocosin

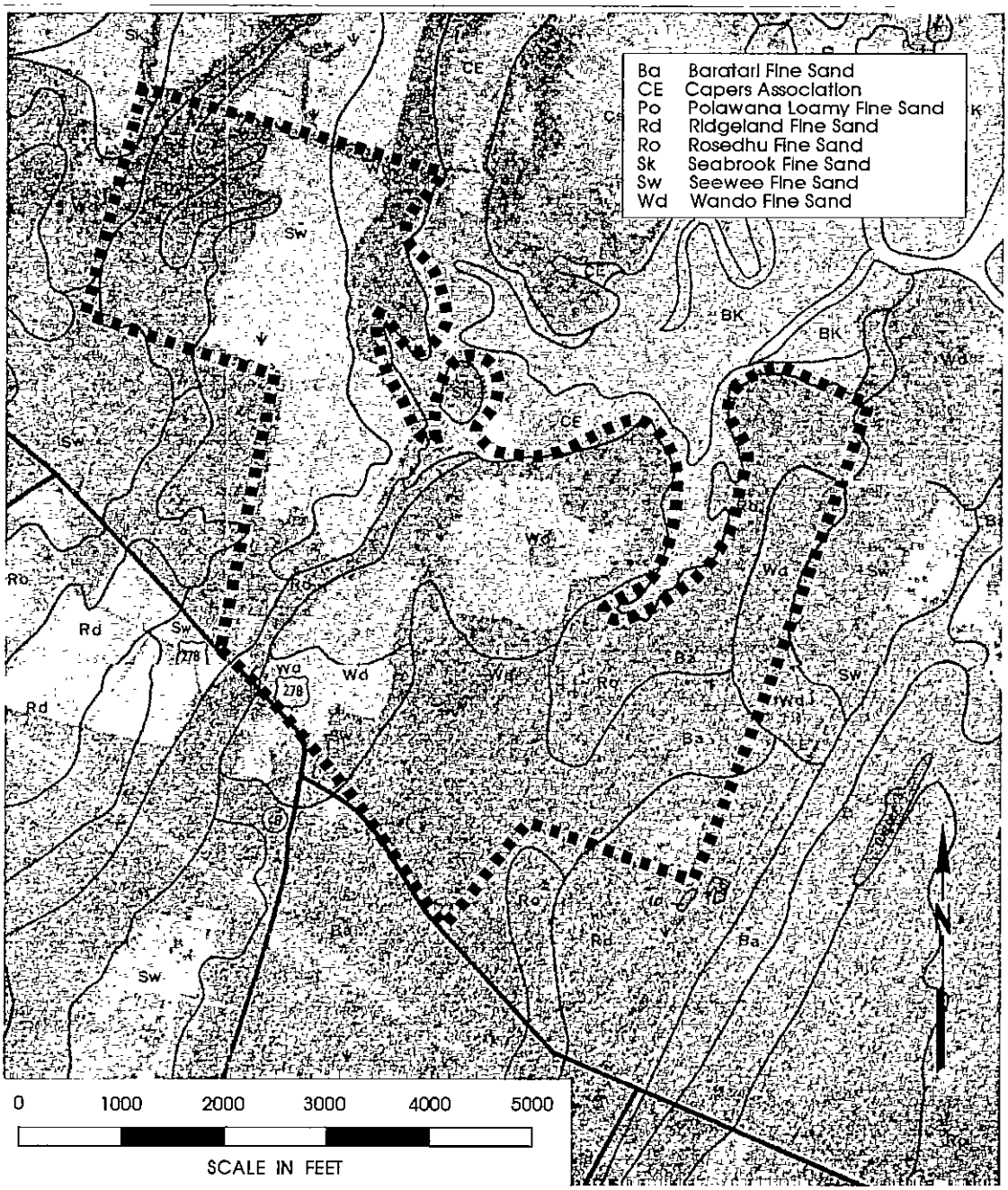

Figure 5. Soil survey for the study tract (adapted from Stuck 1980:Maps 84 and 92).

Figure 6. Dense hardwood and pine vegetation with an understory of palmetto and scrub.

Figure 7. Maritime hardwood with open understory of occasional palmetto.

Figure 8. Old agricultural fields now in second growth broom sedge and pines.

Figure 9. Old agricultural field planted in pines with an open understory.

understory. There would also have been some limited areas of wetland swamps with tupelo, bay, and ash.

Although much modified by extensive agriculture, at least some of this more native vegetation is still suggested. There are areas of standing water swamp, as well as remnant areas of maritime forest. Much of the tract exhibits very dense mixed hardwood and pine vegetation (Figure 6), although there are areas where the lowland forest is more open, resembling what was probably typical for much of the region (Figure 7).

Dominating the causal observer's perception of the property, however, are the areas of previous agriculture which today are largely in second growth pine and grass (Figure 8). In a few areas previous agricultural fields have been planted in pine, creating a ecosystem with a fairly open understory (Figure 9).

Robert Mills, discussing Beaufort District in the early nineteenth century, stated:

> besides a fine growth of pine, we have the cypress, red cedar, and live oak . . . white oak, red oak, and several other oaks, hickory, plum, palmetto, magnolia, poplar, beech, birch, ash, dogwood, black mulberry, etc. Of fruit trees we have the orange, sweet and sour, peach, nectarine, fig, cherry (Mills 1826:377).

He also cautioned, however, that "some parts of the district are beginning already to experience a want of timber, even for common purposes" (Mills 1826:383) and suggested that at least 25% of a plantation's acreage should be reserved for woods.

PREHISTORIC AND HISTORIC SYNTHESIS

Previous Investigations

At the initiation of the previous reconnaissance level investigation, the South Carolina Department of Archives and History was contacted with a request that they check of their master topographic maps to locate any NRHP buildings, districts, structures, sites, or objects in the study area. In addition, we requested a check to determine the results of any structures surveys which may have been completed in the study area. Dr. Tracy Power of that agency reported that there were no recorded sites for the project area (Dr. Tracy Power, personal communication 1997). In addition, Ms. Rachel Brinson-Marrs of the Foundation staff examined the State Site Files at the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology to confirm that no archaeological sites had been previously identified on the tract.

In addition, we examined the previously conducted cartographic survey of Beaufort County (Hacker and Trinkley 1992), discovering that the proposed tract immediately to the east, on Trimbleton Plantation, was thought to contain a settlement consisting of three structures plus one row of three additional buildings (Hacker and Trinkley 1992:59). This is likely a nineteenth century plantation settlement including a main house, outbuildings, and a slave settlement. It was recorded as 38BU1716 during the reconnaissance study, but is outside the boundaries of the current intensive survey.

As previously discussed the findings of this reconnaissance level study (Trinkley 1997) lead to the decision to conduct an intensive survey on the project tract.

Perhaps the best known historic research for the area is H.A.M. Smith's work on Sir John Colleton's Okeetee or Devil's Elbow Barony (Figure 10). Colleton was granted the 12,000 acres in 1718 and by 1726 he had devised the parcel to his second son, Peter Colleton (Smith 1988:87). At Peter's death the barony was passed to his brother, the Honorable John Colleton, who devised the property to his son, John. It was apparently during the 1750s that the property was initially developed. By the time of the American Revolution there is good evidence that Colleton was grazing large quantities of cattle on the tract, and possibly growing some indigo (Smith 1988:88).

Smith reports that before Sir John Colleton's death in 1777 he had disposed of slightly over 6,000 acres in tracts ranging from just under 300 acres to nearly 1,700 acres to William Fripp, Thomas Farr, Benjamin Walls (apparently the area surrounding the Town of Bluffton), James Stanyarne, Edmund Bellinger, and George Hipp. The remainder of the barony went to his only daughter, Louisa Carolina Colleton, who married Admiral Richard Graves of the British Navy.

Although Louisa Graves maintained the parcel through her life, it seems likely that it had been divided into more manageable plantations. Prior to her death she, "disposed of a part of the barony lying on Colleton river to Benjamin Guerard, which part seems afterward to have become the property of Mr. William Wigg Barnwell by whom it was called 'Trimbleston'" (Smith 1988:89). At her death the remainder was divided up and sold 800 acres called Rose Hill to James Kirk, 946 acres known as the Hunting Island tract to James Kirk in 1828, 1,370 acres known as the Camp tract to Mrs. Pinckney and Mrs. Izard in 1828, 1,055 acres known as Foot Point to John Stoney in 1829 (see McCrady Plats 4479 and 4560 for this area), 942 acres known as the Ferry tract to John Stoney in 1829, 750 acres known as the Fording Island tract to W.J. Grayson in 1829, and in 1829 709 acres known as the Toppin tract to Miss Pinckney (Smith 1988:89-90).

Although based on a 1786 plan, H.A.M. Smith's map fails to provide much detail. What is,

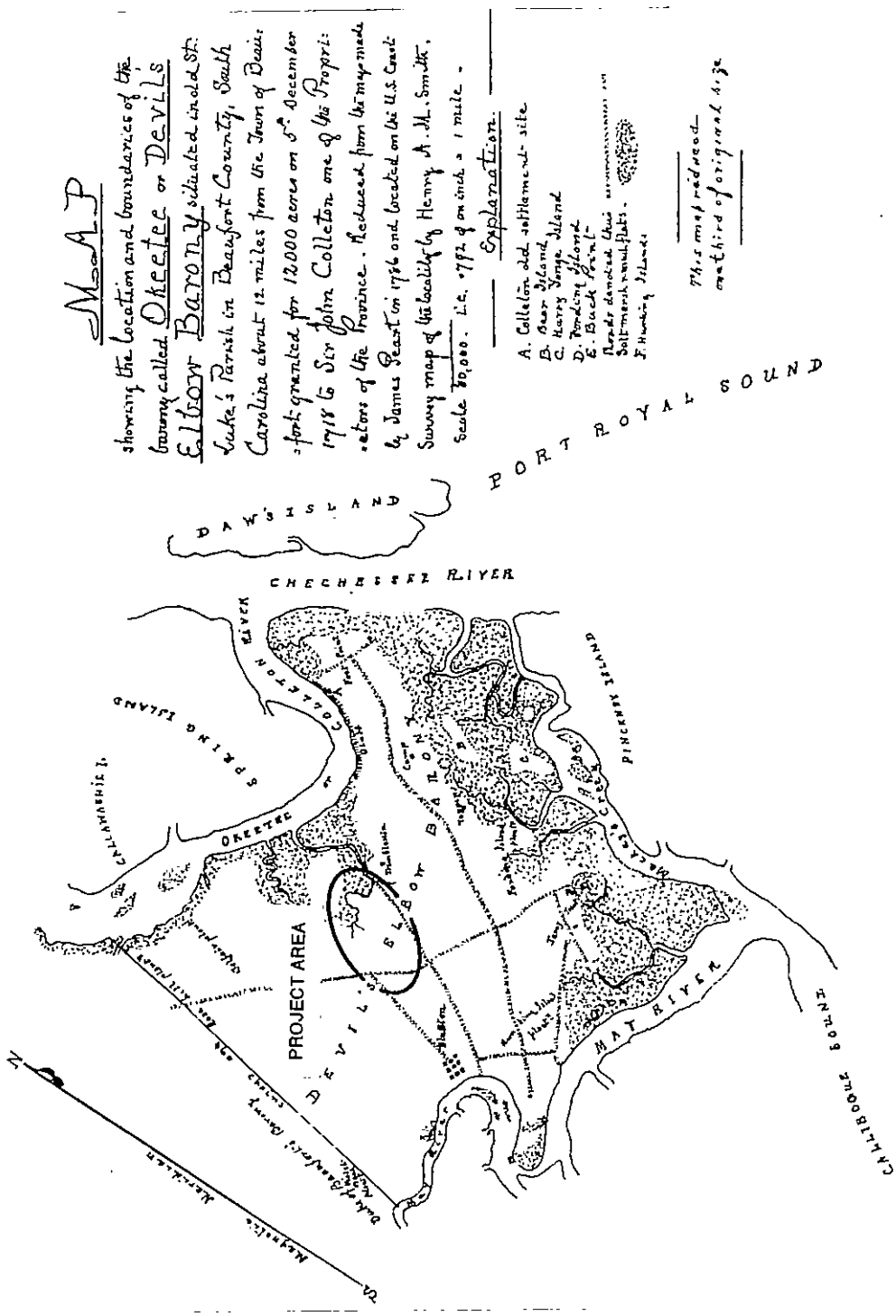

Figure 10. Drawing of the Okeetee or Okatie Barony by H.A.M. Smith.

however, immediately apparent is that there is no obvious early plantation settlement in the project area.

The area to the west, known as Belfair, has been surveyed by Brockington and Associates and that report is available from the South Carolina Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology. As a result of that work 23 sites were identified, including 15 prehistoric sites, three historic sites, and five multi-component sites. Ten of these sites were assessed as either eligible or potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (Markham 1994: 29). This work followed on the previous research in the Belfair area by Chicora Foundation (Adams et al. 1992). This study, which focused on the Pecan Grove Tract, identified one site which was recommended as potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register and another recommended as eligible.

The closest site to the project area (excluding those found on the tract during the reconnaissance study) is 38BU1415, a prehistoric site identified as potentially eligible. This site measures about 455 feet by 878 feet and artifacts, primarily Middle Woodland sherds, were recovered from the plow zone. The survey study suggests that the site may have served as a base camp with subsistence strategy focusing on the nearby marsh (Markham 1994:57; see also Adams et al. 1992).

To the east of the survey tract some level of investigation has occurred on the Heritage Trust property, Foot Point Plantation, and the Victoria Bluff tract (also known as the Chicago Bridge and Iron tract). The earliest study was that by Widmer (1976) who surveyed a portion of the Victoria Bluff tract for a proposed industrial facility. His work identified a series of primarily Middle Woodland shell middens in the area. He reported that the sites fell into three categories: single shell heaps smaller than 30 feet in diameter, small clusters (2-6) of shell heaps, and multiple shell heaps (over 20) (Widmer 1976:29). Unfortunately, the Chicago Bridge and Iron tract was stripped of soil before the survey, so while sites were fairly easy to identify and artifacts were plentiful, site integrity was dramatically affected.

Extensive survey was conducted by Chicora Foundation on Foot Point Plantation in the late 1970s and early 1980s, resulting in the identification and testing of a number of shell midden sites (see Figure 11). About the same time, limited site testing was conducted on a Late Woodland St. Catherines shell midden (38BU347) found on the Heritage Trust property (Trinkley 1981:73-88). A radiocarbon sample from that site has been dated to A.D. 1380. Perhaps most significantly, this testing and survey work tends to associate these Middle Woodland sites with somewhat better drained soils on the edge of poorly drained soils that may have been ponds or sloughs. The work also revealed that better drained soils could occur as small "islands" in a "sea" of very poorly drained soil.

In addition, a St. Catherines burial mound from the same area was examined and mapped (Trinkley 1981:Figure 15; this study, Figure 12). This site suggests that many, perhaps all, of the small shell midden sites in the immediate area may represent hamlets, seasonal camps, or perhaps even macrobands within the influence sphere of this mound.

The previous work in the project area reveals a tremendous potential for both historic and prehistoric sites.

Prehistoric Synthesis

There have been a number of studies prepared for the Beaufort area, and Derting et al. (1991:47-77) list 225 in their bibliography of South Carolina archaeology. There are a variety of excellent archaeological studies for the general project area which should be consulted (see especially Trinkley and Adams 1994 for an overview of previous research and Anderson et al. (1996) for a synthesis of current thought regarding the Woodland Period along the Carolina coast.

Paleoindian and Archaic Periods

The Paleoindian period, lasting from 12,000 to 8,000 B.C., is evidenced by basally thinned, side-notched projectile points; fluted, lanceolate projectile points; side scrapers; end

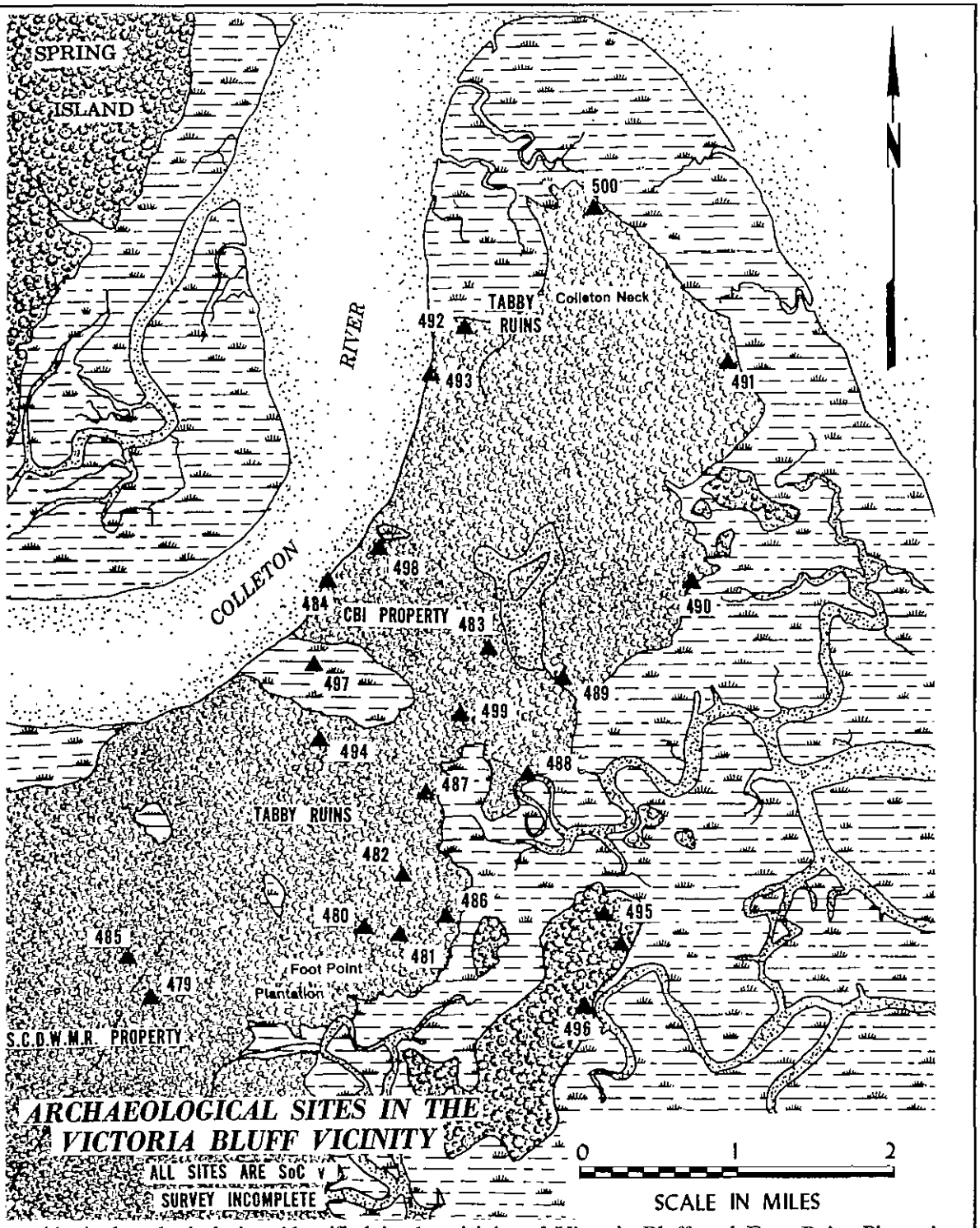

Figure 11. Archaeological sites identified in the vicinity of Victoria Bluff and Foot Point Plantation (adapted from Trinkley 1981b:Figure 11).

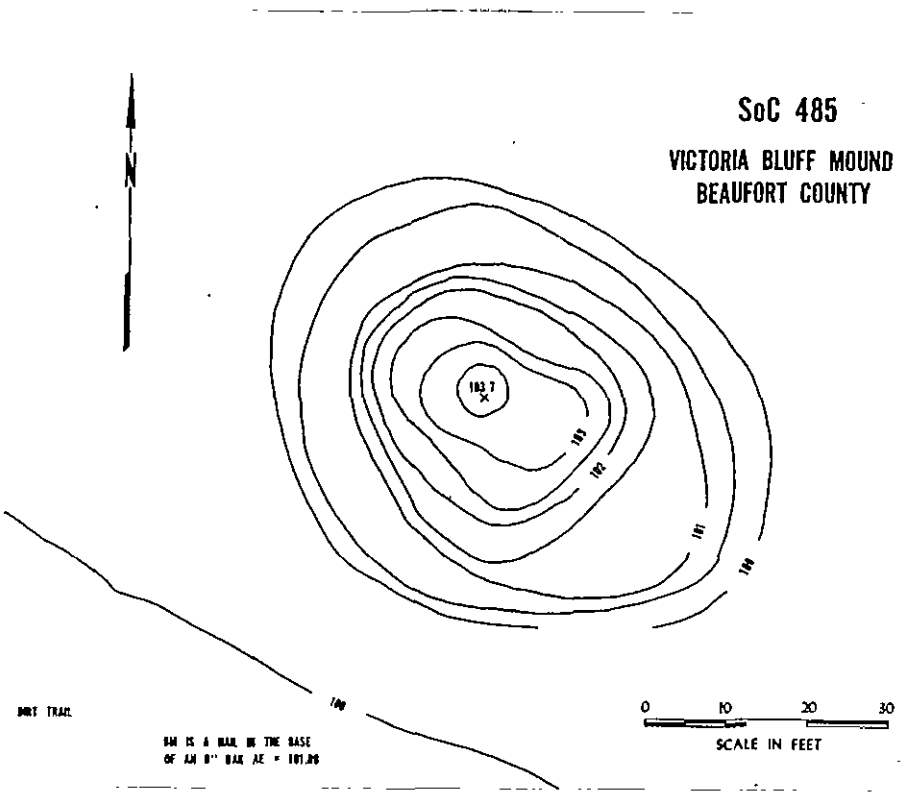

Figure 12. Contour map of the Victoria Bluff Burial Mount (adapted from Trinkley 1981b:Figure 15).

scrapers; and drill (Coe 1964; Goodyear et al. 1989; Michie 1977; Williams 1968). The Paleoindian occupation, while widespread, does not appear to have been intensive. Artifacts are most frequently found along major river drainages, which Michie interprets to support the concept of an economy "oriented towards the exploitation of now extinct mega-fauna" (Michie 1977:124).

Sea level during much of this period is expected to have been as much as 65 feet lower than present, so many sites may be inundated (Flint 1971). Unfortunately, little is known about Paleoindian subsistence strategies, settlement systems, or social organization. Generally archaeologists agree that the Paleoindian groups were at a band level of society, were nomadic, and were both hunters and foragers. While population density, based on the isolated finds, is thought to have been low, Walthall suggests that toward the end of the period, "there was an increase in population density and in territoriality and that a number of new resource areas were beginning to be exploited" (Walthall 1980:30).

The Archaic period, which dates from 8000 to 2000 B.C., does not form a sharp break with the Paleoindian period, but is a slow transition characterized by a modern climate and an increase in the diversity of material culture. The chronology established by Coe (1964) for the North Carolina Piedmont may be applied with little modification to the South Carolina coast. Archaic period assemblages are rare in the Sea Island region, although the sea level is anticipated to have been within 13 feet of its present stand by the beginning of the succeeding Woodland period (Lepionka et al. 1983:10). Brooks and Scurry note that:

> Archaic period sites, when contrasted with the subsequent Woodland period, are typically small, relatively few in number and contain low densities of archaeological material. The data may indicate that the inter-riverine zone was utilized by Archaic populations characterized by small group size, high mobility, and wide ranging exploitative

patterns (Brooks and Scurry 1978:44).

Alternatively, the general sparsity of Archaic sites in the coastal zone may be the result of a more attractive environment inland adjacent to the floodplain swamps of major drainages. Of course, this is not necessarily an alternative explanation, since coastal Archaic sites may represent only a small segment in the total settlement system.

Early Woodland

The earliest phase of the Woodland period (see Figure 13) is called Stallings, after the type site excavated by the Cosgroves in 1929 (Claflin 1931). These "Stallings Island people" produced a rich cultural assemblage of bone and antler work, polished stone items, grooved and perforated "net sinkers" or steatite disks, stone tools (including projectile points, knives, scrapers, and cruciform drills), and fiber tempered pottery (see also Williams 1968). It was over a decade before the typological significance of the Stallings ware was recognized and a formal type description was offered (Fairbanks 1942; Griffin 1943). The definitive feature of this pottery is its large quantity of fiber, now identified as Spanish Moss (Simpkins and Scoville 1981), included in the paste prior to firing.

The elaborate Savannah River drainage sites such as Stallings Island, Fennel Hill, Rabbit Mount, and Bilbo, are all characterized by large quantities of either fresh water mussels or tidal oysters, large quantities of artifacts, and abundant features. These middens, however, represent only one aspect of the Stallings settlement system. Another portion of that system is represented by Stallings sites which evidence little shell. While many of these are sparse scatters, such as Clear Mount (Stoltman 1974) and Pinckney Island (Trinkley 1981b), some evidence intensive occupation with features and a rich cultural assemblage, such as the Love (38AL10; Trinkley 1974) and Fish Haul (38BU805; Trinkley 1986) sites.

At the Fish Haul site a Stallings phase "D"-shaped structure containing about 90 square feet of floor area has been identified (Trinkley 1986:145-147) and Stoltman (1974:51-54) recovered a lean-to structure at Rabbit Mount. The function of essentially non-shell midden sites such as Love and Fish Haul is only partially understood at present, although shellfish seasonality and ethnobotanical studies (Claassen 1986; Lawrence 1986; Trinkley 1986) are beginning to suggest late fall and winter occupation. These may represent early sites when the subsistence base was diffuse, prior to intensive riverine and estuarine exploitation. Alternatively, and more likely, they may represent a seasonal round in the Stallings settlement system. Riverine shellfish may have been gathered in the fall when the Savannah River and its tributaries were low and clear, while other resources away from the river were exploited during the period of high discharge in the late winter and spring (Anderson and Schuldenrein 1985:13). Additional work within the Savannah drainage is necessary to understand more fully the relationship between large shell middens, dense non-shell upland and coastal sites, and sparse upland and coastal "scatters."

The following Thom's Creek phase dates as early as 2220±350 B.C. (UGA-584) from Spanish Mount in Charleston County (Sutherland 1974) and continues to at least 935±175 B.C. (UGA-2901), based on a date from the Lighthouse Point Shell Ring, also in Charleston County (Trinkley 1980b:191-192). The Thom's Creek phase is characterized by an artifact assemblage almost identical to that of Stallings sites. The only major differences include the replacement of fiber tempering with sand, or a clay not requiring tempering, and the gradual reduction of projectile point size.

Thom's Creek pottery, first typed by Griffin (1945), consists of sandy paste pottery decorated with the motifs common to the Stallings series, including punctations (reed and shell), finger pinching, simple stamping, incising, and very late in the phase, finger smoothed (Trinkley 1980a). Investigations at the Lighthouse Point and Stratton Place shell rings, stratigraphic studies at Spanish Mount and Fig Island, radiocarbon dates from Lighthouse Point and Venning Creek, and

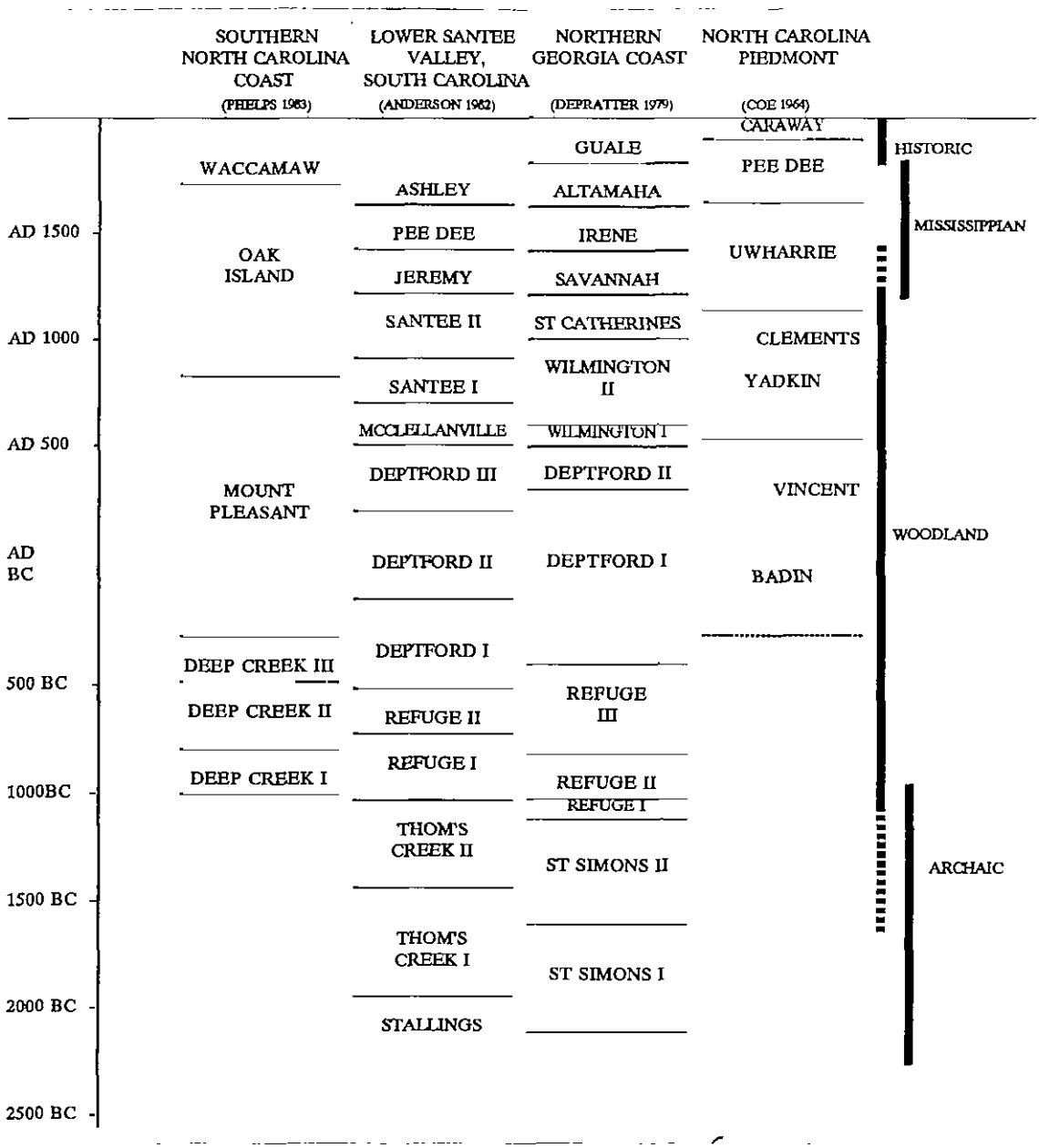

Figure 13. Woodland Period phases in the South Carolina locality.

the study of surface collections from a number of sites, have suggested a temporal ordering of the Thom's Creek series. Reed punctated pottery appears to be the oldest, followed by the shell punctated and finger pinched motifs. Late in the Thom's Creek phase, perhaps by 1000 B.C., there is the addition of Thom's Creek Finger Smoothed (Trinkley 1983a:44). Vessel forms include deep, straight sided jars and shallow conoidal bowls. Lip treatments are simple, and coiling fractures are common. Firing of the Thom's Creek vessels is certainly better than that evidenced for Stallings, but there continues to be abundant incompletely oxidized specimens.

Like the Stallings settlement pattern, Thom's Creek sites are found in a variety of environmental zones and take on several forms. Thom's Creek sites are found throughout the South Carolina Coastal Zone, Coastal Plain, and up to the Fall Line. The sites are found into the North Carolina Coastal Plain, but do not appear to extend southward into Georgia. There appears to be strong concentration of Thom's Creek sites in the Santee River drainage and the central South Carolina coast (see Anderson 1975:184).

In the Coastal Plain drainage of the Savannah River there is a change of settlement, and probably subsistence, away from the riverine focus found in the Stallings Phase (Hanson 1982:13; Stoltman 1974:235-236). Thom's Creek sites are more commonly found in the upland areas and lack evidence of intensive shellfish collection. In the Coastal Zone large, irregular shell middens; small middens with only sparse shell; and large "shell rings" are found in the Thom's Creek settlement system.

Limited testing has been conducted at one small Thom's Creek non-shell midden on Sol Legare Island (38CH779) in Charleston County, South Carolina (Trinkley 1984). The site evidenced very limited reliance on shellfish and faunal remains, with the bulk of the food remains consisting of large mammals. Excavations also identified a portion of a probable Thom's Creek post structure situated about 180 feet inland from the marsh edge.

Excavations at other Coastal Zone Thom's Creek sites includes the work by Sutherland (1973, 1974) at the Spanish Mount shell midden (38CH62). While this work has never been completely published, the site appears to represent a seasonally occupied camp with a diffuse subsistence base, including reliance on shellfish, floral material, fish, and mammals.

By far the most work has been conducted at Thom's Creek phase shell rings (see Trinkley 1980b, 1985). These sites are circular middens about 130 to 300 feet in diameter, 2 to 6 feet in height, and 40 feet in width at their bases, with clear interiors. These doughnut-shaped accumulations were formed as small mounds, arranged around an open ground area, and gradually blended together. The ring itself is composed of varying proportions of shell, animal bone, pottery, soil, and other artifacts. These shell rings were apparently mundane occupation sites for fairly large social units which lived on the ring, disposed of garbage underfoot, and used the clear interiors as areas for communal activities. The sites further suggest relatively permanent, stable village life as early as 1600 B.C., with a subsistence base oriented toward large and small mammals, fish, shellfish, and hickory nut resources (Trinkley 1985).

Following Stallings and Thom's Creek are the Refuge and Deptford phases, both strongly associated with the Georgia sequence and the Savannah drainage (DePratter 1979; Lepionka et al. 1983; Williams 1968). The Refuge Phase, dated from 1070±115 B.C. (QC-784) to 510±100 B.C. (QC-785), is found primarily along the South Carolina coast from the Savannah drainage as far north as the Santee River (Williams 1968:208). Anderson (1975:184) further notes an apparent concentration of Refuge sites in the Coastal Plain, particularly along the Santee River.

The Refuge series pottery is similar in many ways to the preceding Thom's Creek wares. The paste is compact and sandy or gritty, while surface treatments include sloppy simple stamped, dentate stamped, and random punctate decorations (see DePratter 1979:115-123; Williams 1968:198-208). Anderson et al. note that these typologies are

"marred by a lack of reference to the Thom's Creek series" (Anderson et al. 1982:265) and that the Refuge Punctate and Incised types are indistinguishable from Thom's Creek wares. Peterson (1971:153) characterizes Refuge as both a degeneration of the preceding Thom's Creek series and also as a bridge to the succeeding Deptford series.

It is difficult to reconstruct the subsistence base, although the sites suggest small, seasonal camps for small groups (Trinkley 1982). The settlement fragmentation, which began at the end of the Thom's Creek phase, around 1000 B.C., probably relates to the increase in sea level, from a Thom's Creek phase low of 10 feet below the current high marsh surface at 1200 B.C. to a high of about 3 feet below the current high marsh surface at 950 B.C. (Colquhoun et al. 1980; Brooks et al. 1989). This increasing sea level drowned the tidal marshes (and sites) on which the Thom's Creek people relied. The following Refuge phase evidences the fragmentation necessary when the environment which gave rise to large sedentary populations disappeared. Hanson (1982:21-23), based on Savannah River data, suggests that subsistence stress present during the Thom's Creek phase may have resulted in an expansion of the settlement system into diverse environmental settings. It seems likely, however, that the development of mature, upland tributaries was also essential ingredient in this process (see Sassaman et al. 1989). This same "splintering" is observed on the South Carolina coast.

The Deptford culture takes its name from the type site located east of Savannah, Georgia, which was excavated in the mid-1930s (Caldwell 1943:12-16). Deptford phase sites are best recognized by the presence of fine to course sandy paste pottery with a check stamped surface treatment. This pottery is typically in the form of a cylindrical vessel with a conoidal base. The flat bottomed bowl with tetrapodal supports found at Deptford sites along the Florida Gulf coast (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:79) is very rare in South Carolina. Other Deptford phase pottery styles include cord marking, simple stamping, a complicated stamping which resembles early Swift Creek, and a geometric stamping which consists of a series of carved triangles or diamonds with interior dots (see Anderson et al. 1982:277-293; DePratter 1979).

The Deptford technology is little better known than that of the preceding Refuge phase. Shell tools are uncommon, bone tools are "extremely rare" (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:77), and stone tools are rare on Coastal Zone sites. All of this indicates to some researchers that "wood must have been worked into a variety of tool types" (Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:75). One type of stone tool associated with South Carolina Deptford sites is a very small, stemmed projectile point tentatively described as "Deptford Stemmed" (Trinkley 1980c:20-23). This point is the culmination of the Savannah River Stemmed reduction seen in the Thom's Creek and Refuge phases. Also found at Deptford sites are "medium-sized triangular points," probably similar to the Yadkin Triangular point (Coe 1964:45, 47, 49; Milanich and Fairbanks 1980:75-76).

Perhaps of even greater interest is the co-occurrence of the larger triangular points (such as Badin and Yadkin) with smaller triangular forms (such as Caraway) traditionally attributed to the Late Woodland and South Appalachian Mississippian periods. This situation has been reported at Coastal Plain sites (Blanton et al. 1986:107), Savannah River sites (Sassaman et al. 1989:157), and Coastal Zone sites (Trinkley 1990). Blanton et al. (1986) suggest that these point types were used at the same time, but perhaps for different tasks.

The traditional view of an estuarine Deptford adaptation with minor interior occupations must be re-evaluated based on the Savannah River drainage work of Brooks and Hanson (1987) and Sassaman et al. (1989:293-295) who suggest larger residential base camps and foraging zones along the Savannah River, coupled with smaller, household residences and foraging zones in the uplands along small tributaries.

Throughout much of the Coastal Zone and Coastal Plain north of Charleston, a somewhat different cultural manifestation is observed, related to the "Northern Tradition" (e.g., Caldwell 1958).

This recently identified assemblage has been termed Deep Creek and was first identified from northern North Carolina sites (Phelps 1983). The Deep Creek assemblage is characterized by pottery with medium to coarse sand inclusions and surface treatments of cord marking, fabric impressing, simple stamping, and net impressing (see Trinkley 1987). Much of this material has been previously designated as the Middle Woodland "Cape Fear" pottery originally typed by South (1960). The Deep Creek wares date from about 1000 B.C. to A.D. 1 in North Carolina, but may date later in South Carolina, based on two radiocarbon dates of 120±130 B.C. (QC-1358) and A.D. 210±110 (QC-1357). The Deep Creek settlement and subsistence systems are poorly known, but appear to be very similar to those identified with the Deptford phase.

The Deep Creek assemblage strongly resembles Deptford both typologically and temporally. It appears this northern tradition of cord and fabric impressions was introduced and gradually accepted by indigenous South Carolina populations. During this time some groups continued making only the older carved paddle-stamped pottery, while others mixed the two styles, and still others (and later all) made exclusively cord and fabric stamped wares.

Middle Woodland

Although the Deptford phase is discussed as part of the Early Woodland, many authors place the phase intermediate between the Early and Middle Woodland (see, for example, Anderson et al. 1982:28, 250). Such an approach is not unreasonable, because Deptford exhibits considerable temporal range and cultural adaptations which are more characteristically Middle Woodland (see also Anderson 1985:53). The Deptford phase, however, is still part of the early carved paddle stamped tradition which is replaced by the posited northern intrusion of wrapped paddle stamping during the Middle Woodland. Clearly the Deep Creek pottery, at the same time period as Deptford, is part of this "Northern Tradition," yet the Deep Creek, on temporal grounds, is considered Early Woodland by Phelps (1983:17, 29). This is meant simply to indicate that the transition from Early to Middle Woodland is not as clear as one might wish.

The Middle Woodland in South Carolina is characterized by a pattern of settlement mobility and short-term occupation. On the southern coast it is associated with the Wilmington phase, while on the northern coast it is recognized by the presence of Hanover, McClellanville or Santee, and Mount Pleasant assemblages. Wilmington and Hanover may be viewed as regional varieties of the same ceramic tradition. The pottery is characterized almost solely by its crushed sherd (perhaps with grog as well) temper which makes up 30 to 40% of the paste and which ranges in size from 3 to 10 mm. Wilmington was first described by Caldwell and Waring (Williams 1968:113-116) from coastal Georgia work, while the Hanover description was offered by South (1960), based on a survey of the Southeastern coast of North Carolina (with incursions into South Carolina). The Wilmington phase was seen by Waring (Williams 1968:221) as intrusive from the Carolina coast, but there is considerable evidence for the inclusion of Deptford traits in the Wilmington series. For example, Caldwell and McCann (1940:n.p.) noted that, "the Wilmington complex proper contains all of the main kinds of decoration which occur in the Deptford complex with the probable exception of Deptford Linear Checkstamped" (see also Anderson et al. 1982:275). Consequently, surface treatments of cord marking, check stamping, simple stamping, and fabric impressing may be found with sherd tempered paste.

Sherd tempered Wilmington and Hanover wares are found from at least the Chowan River in North Carolina southward onto the Georgia coast. Anderson (1975:187) has found the Hanover series evenly distributed over the Coastal Plain of South Carolina, although it appears slightly more abundant north of the Edisto River. The heartland may be along the inner Coastal Plain north of the Cape Fear River in North Carolina. Radiocarbon dates for Wilmington and Hanover range from 135±85 B.C. (UM-1916) from site 38BK134 to A.D. 1120±100 (GX-2284) from a "Wilmington House" at the Charles Towne Landing site, 38CH1. Most dates, however, cluster from A.D. 400 to 900; some researchers prefer a date range of about 200

B.C. to A.D. 500 (Anderson et al. 1982:276).

Largely contemporaneous with the sherd tempered wares are what have been termed the Mount Pleasant, McClellanville, and Santee series. The Mount Pleasant series has been developed by Phelps from work along the northeastern North Carolina coast (Phelps 1983:32-35, 1984:41-44) and is a Middle Woodland refinement of South's (1960) previous Cape Fear series. The pottery is characterized by a sandy paste either with or without quantities of rounded pebbles. Surface treatments include fabric impressed, cord marked, and net impressed. Vessels are usually conoidal, although simple, hemispherical, and globular bowls are also present. The Mount Pleasant series is found from North Carolina southward to the Savannah River (being evidenced by the "Untyped Series" in Trinkley 1981b). North Carolina dates for the series range from A.D. 265±65 (UGA-1088) to A.D. 890±80 (UGA-3849). The several dates currently available from South Carolina (such as UGA-3512 of A.D. 565±70 from Pinckney Island) fall into this range of about A.D. 200 to 900.

The McClellanville (Trinkley 1981a) and Santee (Anderson et al. 1982:302-308) series are found primarily on the north central coast of South Carolina and are characterized by a fine to medium sandy paste ceramic with surface treatment of primarily v-shaped simple stamping. While the two pottery types are quite similar, it appears that the Santee series may have later features, such as excurvate rims and interior rim stamping, not so-far observed in the McClellanville series. The Santee series is placed at A.D. 800 to 1300 by Anderson et al. (1982:303), while the McClellanville ware may be slightly earlier, perhaps A.D. 500 to 800. Anderson et al. (1982:302-304; see also Anderson 1985) provide a detailed discussion of the Santee Series and its possible relationships with the McClellanville Series. Anderson, based on the Santee area data from Mattassee Lake, indicates that there is evidence for the replacement of fabric impressed pottery by simple stamping about A.D. 800 (David G. Anderson, personal communication 1990). This may suggest that McClellanville and Santee wares are closely related, both typologically and culturally. Also probably related is the little known Camden Series (Stuart 1975) found in the inner Coastal Plain of South Carolina.

The best data concerning Middle Woodland Coastal Zone assemblages comes from Phelps' (1983:32-33) work in North Carolina. Associated items include a small variety of the Roanoke Large Triangular points (Coe 1964:110-111), sandstone abraders, shell pendants, polished stone gorgets, celts, and woven marsh mats. Significantly, both primary inhumations and cremations are known from the Mount Pleasant phase.

These Middle Woodland Coastal Plain and Coastal Zone phases continue the Early Woodland Deptford pattern of mobility. While sites are found all along the coast and inland to the Fall Line, shell midden sites evidence sparse shell and artifacts. Gone are the abundant shell tools, worked bone items, and clay balls. Recent investigations at Coastal Zone sites such as 38BU747 and 38BU1214, however, have provided some evidence of worked bone and shell items at Deptford phase middens (see Trinkley 1990).

In terms of settlement patterns, several researchers have offered some conclusions based on localized data. Michie (1980:80), for example, correlates rising sea levels with the extension of Middle Woodland shell middens further up the Port Royal estuary. Scurry and Brooks (1980:75-78) find the Middle Woodland site patterning in the Wando River affected not only by the sea level fluctuations, but also by soil types (see also Trinkley 1980b:445-446). They suggest that the strong soil correlation is the result of upland sites having functioned as extraction areas, principally for exploitation of acorns, hickory nuts, and deer. Shell midden sites, they suggest, also represent seasonal camps and therefore exhibit small size, low artifact density, and infrequent re-occupation. Ward's (1978) work in Marlboro County suggests that interior site patterning changed little from the Early to Middle Woodland. Sites continue to be found on the low, sandy ridges overlooking hardwood swamp floodplains, which suggests that while pottery styles changed, site locations, and presumably subsistence, did not (see also Ferguson

1976). Drucker and Anthony's (1978) work in Florence County, South Carolina reveals virtually continuous short-term occupation along the terraces associated with the floodplain of Lynch's Lake. DePratter's work at the Dunlap site, however, suggests that a few, relatively stable villages were present in the Middle Woodland.

Late Woodland and South Appalachian Mississippian

In many respects the South Carolina Late Woodland may be characterized as a continuation of previous Middle Woodland cultural assemblages. While outside the Carolinas there were major cultural changes, such as the continued development and elaboration of agriculture, the Carolina groups settled into a lifeway not appreciably different from that observed for the previous 500 to 700 years (cf. Sassaman et al. 1989:14-15). This situation would remain unchanged until the development of the South Appalachian Mississippian complex (see Ferguson 1971).

Along the central and northern South Carolina coast, Anderson et al. (1982:303-304) suggest a continuation of the Santee series into the Late Woodland. The Hanover and Mount Pleasant series may also be found as late of A.D. 1000. Along the southeastern North Carolina coast, South (1960) has defined the Oak Island complex, which is best known for its shell tempered ceramics with cord marked, fabric impressed, simple stamped, and net impressed surface finishes. The phase is briefly discussed by Phelps (1983:48-49), but curiously this manifestation is almost unknown south of the Little River in South Carolina. Very little is known about the northern coastal South Carolina Late Woodland complexes, although sites such as 38GE32 may document the occurrence of village life in the Late Woodland.

The South Appalachian Mississippian is typically characterized by the construction of truncated temple mounds, reliance on cultivated crops, the development of a social elite, and complicated stamped pottery. The best information for the coastal area comes from the only incompletely reported excavations at the Charles Town Landing site (South 1971). In addition, Anderson (1989) provides an excellent synthesis of Mississippian research in South Carolina, observing that "while we have a fair appreciation for the culmination of the Mississippian in South Carolina, its origins and immediate Woodland antecedents remains largely unknown at the present" (Anderson 1989:114; see also Anderson 1994).

Anderson also notes the need for additional research in the area of:

> relationships between Woodland and Mississippian occupations in South Carolina, particularly the mechanisms bringing about the transition between the seemingly markedly dissimilar forms of social organization and subsistence adaptation (Anderson 1989:113).

While Trinkley (1981a, 1983a, 1983b) has offered a cultural sequence for the Mississippian remains in the coastal area that encompasses the Jeremy, "classic" Pee Dee, "post-classic" Pee Dee, Wachesaw, and Kimbel series, Anderson et al. (1982:312-319) offers an alternative perspective incorporating Pee Dee and Ashley wares.

Protohistoric

The history of the numerous small coastal Indian tribes is poorly known. As Mooney noted, the coastal tribes:

> were of but small importance politically; no sustained mission work was ever attempted among them, and there were but few literary men to take an interest in them. War, pestilence, whiskey and systematic slave hunts had nearly exterminated the aboriginal occupants of the Carolinas before any body had thought them of sufficient importance to ask who they were, how they lived, or what were their beliefs and opinions (Mooney 1894:6).

In truth, our knowledge of these groups has also been limited because too few scholars have taken an active interest in the primary sources and there has been too little desire to evaluate critically the early research by Mooney (1894) and Swanton (1952). For South Carolina Anderson (1989:117-118) briefly notes the current status of ethnohistoric research.

Historic Synopsis

The Spanish and French

The first Spanish explorations in the Carolina low country were conducted in the 1520s under the direction of Lucas Vasquez de Ayllon and Francisco Gordillo. One of the few areas explored by Gordillo which can be identified with any certainty is Santa Elena (St. Helena). Apparently Port Royal Sound was entered and land fall made at Santa Elena on Santa Elena's Day, August 18, 1520. "Cape Santa Elena," according to Quattlebaum (1956:8) was probably Hilton Head (Hoffman 1984:423).

Gordillo's accounts spurred Ayllon to seek a royal commission both to explore further the land and to establish a settlement in the land called Chicora (Quattlebaum 1956:12-17). In July 1526 Ayllon set sail for Chicora with a fleet of six vessels and has been thought to have established the settlement of San Miguel del Galdape in the vicinity of Winyah Bay (Quattlebaum 1956:23). Hoffman (1984:425) has more recently suggested that the settlement was at the mouth of the Santee River (Ayllon's Jordan River). Ferguson (n.d.:1) has suggested that San Miguel was established at Santa Elena in the Port Royal area. More recently, scholars have suggested that the settlement was on the Georgia coast, in the vicinity of St. Catherines Island (Rowland et al. 1996). Regardless, the colony was abandoned in the winter of 1526 with the survivors reaching Hispaniola in 1527 (Quattlebaum 1956:27).

The French, in response to increasing Spanish activity in the New World, undertook a settlement in the land of Chicora in 1562. Charlesfort was established in May 1562 under the direction of Jean Ribaut. This settlement fared no better than the earlier Spanish fort of San Miguel and was abandoned within the year (Quattlebaum 1956:42-56). Ribaut was convinced that his settlement was on the Jordan River in the vicinity of Ayllon's Chicora (Hoffman 1984:432). Recent historical and archaeological studies suggest that Charlesfort may have been situated on Port Royal Island in the vicinity of the Town of Port Royal (South 1982a, see also Rowland et al. 1996:23). The deserted Charlesfort was burned by the Spanish in 1564 (South 1982a:1-2). A year later France's second attempt to establish its claim in the New World was thwarted by the Spanish destruction of the French Fort Caroline on the St. John's River. The massacre at Fort Caroline ended French attempts at colonization on the southeast Atlantic coast.

To protect against any future French intrusion such as Charlesfort, the Spanish proceeded to establish a major outpost in the Beaufort area. The town of Santa Elena was built in 1566, a year after a fort was built in St. Augustine. Three sequential forts were constructed: Fort San Salvador (1566-1570), Fort San Felipe (1570-1576), and Fort San Marcos (1577-1587). In spite of Indian hostilities and periodic burning of the town and forts, the Spanish maintained this settlement until 1587 when it was finally abandoned (South 1979, 1982a, 1982b). Spanish influence, however, continued through a chain of missions spreading up the Atlantic coast from St. Augustine into Georgia. That mission activity, however, declined noticeably during the eighteenth century, primarily because of 1702 and 1704 attacks on St. Augustine and outlying missions by South Carolina Governor James Moore (Deagan 1983:25-26, 40).

The British Proprietory Period

British influence in the New World began in the fifteenth century with the Cabot voyages, but the southern coast did not attract serious attention until King Charles II granted Carolina to the Lords Proprietors in 1663. In August 1663 William Hilton sailed from Barbados to explore the Carolina territory, spending a great deal of time in the Port Royal area (Holmgren 1959). Almost chosen for the first English colony, Hilton Head

Island was passed over by Sir John Yeamans in favor of the more protected Charles Town site on the west bank of the Ashley River in 1670 (Clowse 1971:23-24; Holmgren 1959:39).

Like other European powers, the English were lured to the New World for reasons other than the acquisition of land and promotion of agriculture. The Lords Proprietors, who owned the colony until 1719-1720, intended to discover a staple crop whose marketing would provide great wealth through the mercantile system, which was designed to profit the mother country by providing raw materials unavailable in England (Clowse 1971). Charleston was settled by English citizens, including a number from Barbados, and by Huguenot refugees. Black slaves were brought directly from Africa, as well as Barbados.

The Charleston settlement was moved from the mouth of the Ashley River to the junction of the Ashley and Cooper Rivers in 1680, but the colony was a thorough disappointment to the Proprietors. It failed to grow as expected, did not return the anticipated profit, and failed to evidence workable local government (Ferris 1968:124-125). The early economy was based almost exclusively on Indian trade, naval stores, lumber, and cattle. Rice began emerging as a money crop in the late seventeenth century, but did not markedly improve the economic well-being of the colony until the eighteenth century (Clowse 1971).

Meanwhile, Scottish Covenanters under Lord Cardross established Stuart's Town on Scot's Island (Port Royal) in 1684, where it existed for four years until destroyed by the Spanish. It was not until 1698 that the area was again occupied by the English. Both John Stuart and Major Robert Daniell took possession of lands on St. Helena and Port Royal islands. The town of Beaufort was founded in 1711 although it was not immediately settled. Spring Island was granted to John Cockran in 1706 in two parcels of 500 acres each (S.C. Department of Archives and History, Colonial Series, Royal Grants, volume 39, page 6). One grant mentions that the land is "part of an Island over against Alatamaha Town."

While most of the Beaufort Indian groups were persuaded to move to Polawana Island in 1712, the Yemassee, part of the Creek Confederacy, revolted in 1715. By 1718 the Yemassee were defeated and forced southward to Spanish protection. Consequently, the Beaufort area, known as St. Helena Parish, Granville County, was for the first time relatively safe from both the Spanish and the Indians. The Yemassee, however, continued occasional raids into South Carolina, such as the 1728 destruction of the Passage Fort at Bloody Point on Daufuskie Island (Starr 1984:16). In the same year the English raid on St. Augustine succeeded in breaking the Spanish influence and the remnant Indian groups made peace with the English. The results for the Beaufort area, however, were mixed. While there was a semblance of peace, frontier settlements were largely deserted, population growth was slow, and the Indian trade was diverted from Beaufort to Savannah.

The British Colonial Period

Although peace marked the Carolina colony, the Proprietors continued to have disputes with the populace, primarily over the colony's economic stagnation and deterioration. In 1727 the colony's government virtually broke down when the Council and the Commons were unable to agree on legislation to provide more bills of credit (Clowse 1971:238). This, coupled with the disastrous depression of 1728, brought the colony to the brink of mob violence. Clowse notes that the "initial step toward aiding South Carolina came when the proprietors were eliminated" in 1720 (Clowse 1971:241).

While South Carolina's economic woes were far from solved by this transfer, the Crown's Board of Trade began taking steps to remedy many of the problems. A new naval store law was passed in 1729 with possible advantages accruing to South Carolina. In 1730 the Parliament opened Carolina rice trade with markets in Spain and Portugal. The Board of Trade also dealt with the problem of the colony's financial solvency (Clowse 1971:245-247). Clowse notes that these changes, coupled with new land policies, "allowed the colony to go into an era of unprecedented expansion"

(Clowse 1971:249). South Carolina's position was buttressed by the settlement of Georgia in 1733.

By 1730 the colony's population had risen to about 30,000 individuals, 20,000 of whom were black slaves (Clowse 1971:Table 1). The majority of these slaves were used in South Carolina's expanding rice industry. In the 1730 harvest year 48,155 barrels of rice were reported, up 15,771 barrels or 33% from the previous year (Clowse 1971:Table 3). Although rice was grown in the Beaufort area, it did not become a major crop in South Carolina until after the Revolutionary War. Rice was never a significant crop on the Beaufort Sea Islands, where ranch farming was favored because of its economic returns and favorable climate (Starr 1984:26-27). Elsewhere, however, rice monoculture shaped the social, political, and economic systems which produced and perpetuated the coastal plantation system prior to the rise of cotton culture.

Although indigo was known in the Carolina colony as early as 1669 and was being planted the following year, it was not until the 1740s that it became a major cash crop (Huneycutt 1949). While indigo was difficult to process, its success was partially due to it being complementary to rice. Huneycutt notes that planters were "able to 'dovetail' the work season of the two crops so that a single gang of slaves could cultivate both staples" (Huneycutt 1949:18). Indigo continued to be the main cash crop of South Carolina until the Revolutionary War fatally disrupted the industry.

During the Revolutionary War the British occupied Charleston for over two and one-half years (1780-1782). A post was established in Beaufort to coordinate forays into the inland waterways after Prevost's retreat from the Battle of Stono Ferry (Federal Writer's Project 1938:7; Rowland 1978:288). British earthworks were established around Port Royal and on Ladys Island (Rowland 1978:290). The removal of the royal bounties on rice, indigo, and naval stores caused considerable economic chaos during and after the war with the eventual "restructuring of the state's agricultural and commercial base" (Brockington et al. 1985:34).

The Antebellum Period

While freed of Britain and her mercantilism, the new United States found its economy thoroughly disrupted. There was no longer a bounty on indigo, and in fact Britain encouraged competition from the British and French West Indies and India "to embarrass her former colonies" (Huneycutt 1949:44). As a consequence the economy shifted to tidewater rice production and cotton agriculture. Lepionka notes that "long staple cotton of the Sea Islands was of far higher value than the common variety (60 cents a pound compared to 15 cents a pound in the late 1830s) and this became the major cash crop of the coastal islands" (Lepionka et al. 1983:20). It was cotton, in the Beaufort area, that brought a full establishment of the plantation economy. Lepionka concisely states that:

> [t]he cities of Charleston and Savannah and numerous smaller towns such as Beaufort and Georgetown were supported in their considerable splendor on this wealth . . . . An aristocratic planter class was created, but was based on the essential labor of black slavery without which the plantation economy could not function. Consequently, the demographic pattern of a black majority first established in colonial times was reinforced (Lepionka et al. 1983:21).

Mills, in 1826, provides a thorough commentary on the Beaufort District noting that:

> Beaufort is admirably situated for commerce, possessing one of the finest ports and spacious harbors in the world . . . . There is no district in the state, either better watered, of more extended navigation, or possessing a larger portion of rich land, than Beaufort: more than one half of the territory is rich swamp land, capable of being improved so as

> to yield abundantly (Mills 1826:367).

Describing the Beaufort islands, Mills comments that they were "beautiful to the eye, rich in production, and withal salubrious" (Mills 1826:372). Land prices ranged from $60 an acre for the best, $30 for "second quality," and as low as 25 cents for the "inferior" lands. Grain and sugarcane were cultivated in small quantities for home use while:

> [t]he principal attention of the planter is . . . devoted to the cultivation of cotton and rice, especially the former. The sea islands, or salt water lands, yield cotton of the finest staple, which commands the highest price in market; it has been no uncommon circumstance for such cotton to bring $1 a pound. In favorable seasons, or particular spots, nearly 300 weight has been raised from an acre, and an active field hand can cultivate upwards of four acres, exclusive of one acre and half of corn and ground provisions (Mills 1826:368).

Reference to the 1860 agricultural census reveals that of the 891,228 acres of farmland, 274,015 (30.7%) were improved. In contrast, only 28% of the State's total farmland was improved, and only 17% of the neighboring Colleton District's farm land was improved. Even in wealthy Charleston District only 17.8% of the farm land was improved (Kennedy 1864:128-129). The cash value of Beaufort farms was $9,900,652, while the state average by county was only $4,655,083. The value of Beaufort farms was greater than any other district in the state for that year, and only Georgetown listed a greater cash value of farming implements and machinery (perhaps reflecting the more specialized equipment needed for rice production).

The record of wealth and prosperity, such as it was, is tempered by the realization that it was based on the racial imbalance typical of Southern slavery. In 1820 there were 32,199 people enumerated in Beaufort District, 84.9% of whom were black (Mills 1826:372). While the 1850 population had risen to 38,805, the racial breakdown had changed little, with 84.7% being black (83.2% were slaves). Thus, while the statewide ratio of free white to black slave was 1:1.4, the Beaufort ratio was 1:5.4 (DeBow 1853:338).

Civil War and the Postbellum

Hilton Head Island fell to Union forces on November 7, 1861 and was occupied by the Expeditionary Corps under the direction of General T.W. Sherman. Beaufort, deserted by the Confederate troops and the white towns-people, was occupied by the Union forces several weeks later. A single white person, who remained loyal to the Federal government, was found on Ladys Island (Johnson 1969:189). Hilton Head became the Headquarters for the Department of the South and served as the staging area for a variety of military campaigns. A brief sketch of this period, generally accurate, is offered by Holmgren (1959), while a similarly popular account is provided by Carse (1981). As a result of Hilton Head and Beaufort's early occupation by Union forces, all of the plantations fell to military occupation, a large number of blacks flocked to the area, and a "Department of Experiments" was born. An excellent account of the "Port Royal Experiment" is provided by Rose (1964), while the land policies on St. Helena are explored by McGuire (1985).

Recently, Trinkley (1986) has examined the freedmen village of Mitchelville on Hilton Head Island. One result of the Mitchelville work was to document how little is actually known about the black heritage and postbellum history of the sea islands. Even the social research spearheaded by the University of North Carolina's Institute for Research in Social Science at Chapel Hill in the early twentieth century (e.g. Johnson 1969, Woofter 1930) failed to record much of the activities on islands such as Hilton Head.

McGuire (1982, 1985) provides a detailed account of the land policies in the area during the Civil War and her studies should be consulted for

detailed information. In general, however, blacks slowly came to own a large proportion of the available land. Certificates of possession were eventually issued for a number of the sea island plantations (McGuire 1982:36). During the postbellum period previous owners slowly came forward to reclaim, or redeem, land confiscated by the Federal government. The 1872 redemption process was not totally successful, partially because some tracts had such low value. By the 1890s a program was established to provide owners unsuccessful at either restoration or redemption with token compensation (McGuire 1982:77; S.C. Department of Archives and History, Secretary of State Records, Beaufort County Tax Claims, Direct Tax Compensation Book IX/2/4/3B).

During the late nineteenth century most of the sea island plantations continued as a rural, isolated agrarian communities. The new plantation owners attempted to forge an economic relationship with the free black laborers and found a multitude of problems, including the need to pay higher wages, increasing problems with the cotton boll weevil, and decreasing fertility. The letters of G.C. Hardy, the manager of the Eustis Plantation on Ladys Island in the 1870s, clearly reveal the problems faced during this period. Hardy, in his letters to Frederic Eustis, discusses the rising labor costs and the serious losses of cotton to the boll weevil (South Caroliniana Library, Frederic A. Eustis Collection).

In the 1870s a new form of livelihood was introduced -- the mining of phosphate for fertilizer. While both land and river rock mining were conducted in South Carolina, the Beaufort area saw primarily river dredging to acquire the phosphate ore present as gravel, although land mining of phosphate nodules also took place (Mathews et al. 1980:27, 31). As the industry began to decline in the early twentieth century, blacks returned to agriculture and oyster factories.

Woofter (1930) provides information on the agricultural practices of the St. Helena blacks in the early twentieth century, noting that the population was largely stable, with most blacks remaining in the vicinity of their parents' "home" plantations (Woofter 1930:265). While islands, such as St. Helena, which were large and easily accessible began to change more rapidly during this period, the smaller, more isolated islands, such as Hilton Head, maintained very clear connections with the past which have been repeatedly documented through oral histories.

Historic Synthesis of the Project Area

There are relatively few maps of the project area and most offer only minimal information. Among the most detailed is used in the previously discussed cartographic survey.

This map is the U.S. Coast Survey, Chart 55, "Coast of South Carolina and Georgia from Hunting Island to Ossabaw Island." Although it dates from 1873, it was surveyed just prior to the Civil War. The chart therefore reflects the appearance of the area at the close of the antebellum period. The map reveals that most of the survey tract was in dense woods, with only one small field just south of the plantation settlement and pasture area (or old fields) to the south and west of the cultivated field (Figure 14). The cultivated fields are off the survey tract, being part of neighboring Trimbleston Plantation.

Several other maps, not incorporated in the original cartographic survey, were also examined for additional information. Figure 15 is the ca. 1780 map of the Beaufort area from the Dartmouth College Library's Scavenius Collection. This shows that a settlement, labeled Scotone, was situated in the general project area. Given the scale and rendering of the map, it is possible only to place the settlement somewhere between the Colleton River bend and the Bluffton area. Although it shows the location of "Colleton," which corresponds to Smith's "Colleton Old Settlement Site," Smith fails to mention a Scotone or show any settlement in this area. Moreover, there is no Scotone listed in the S.C. Department of Archives and History Combined Alphabetic Inventory.

While it seems likely that Scotone was the last name of an occupant it is not clear if the individual was an owner, or perhaps simply an overseer. It is also possible that this settlement is the location of one of those tracts disposed of by

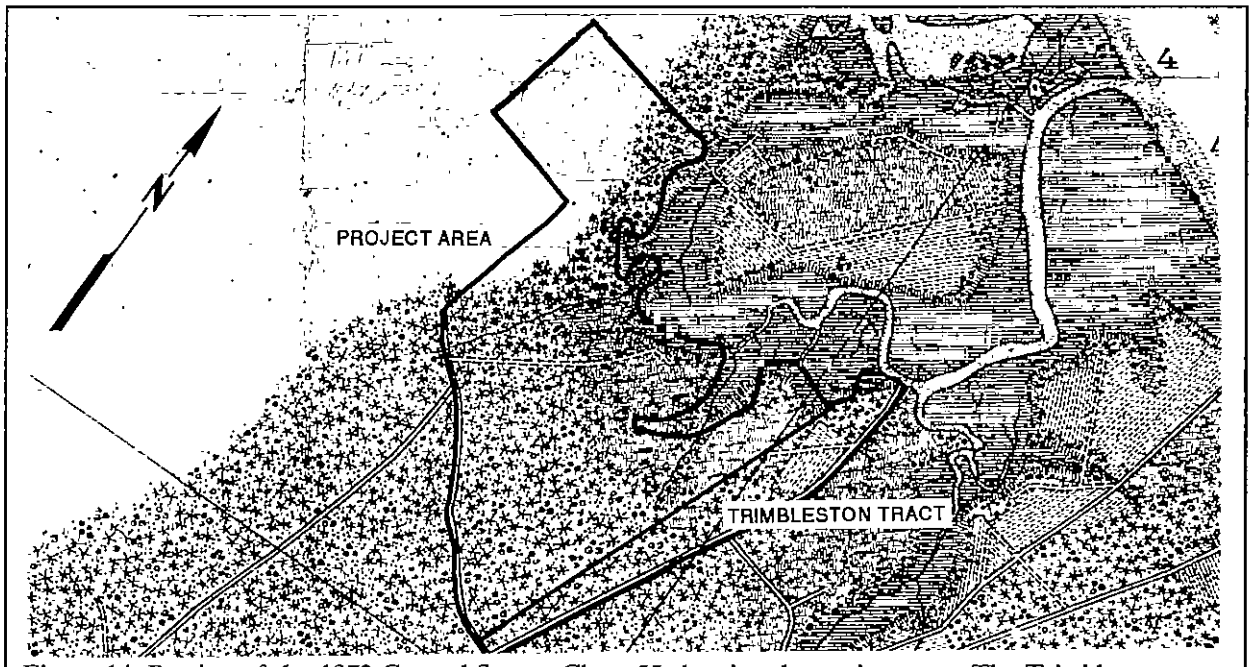

Figure 14. Portion of the 1873 Coastal Survey Chart 55 showing the project area. The Trimbleston tract was included in the reconnaissance level study, but is not included in this intensive examination.

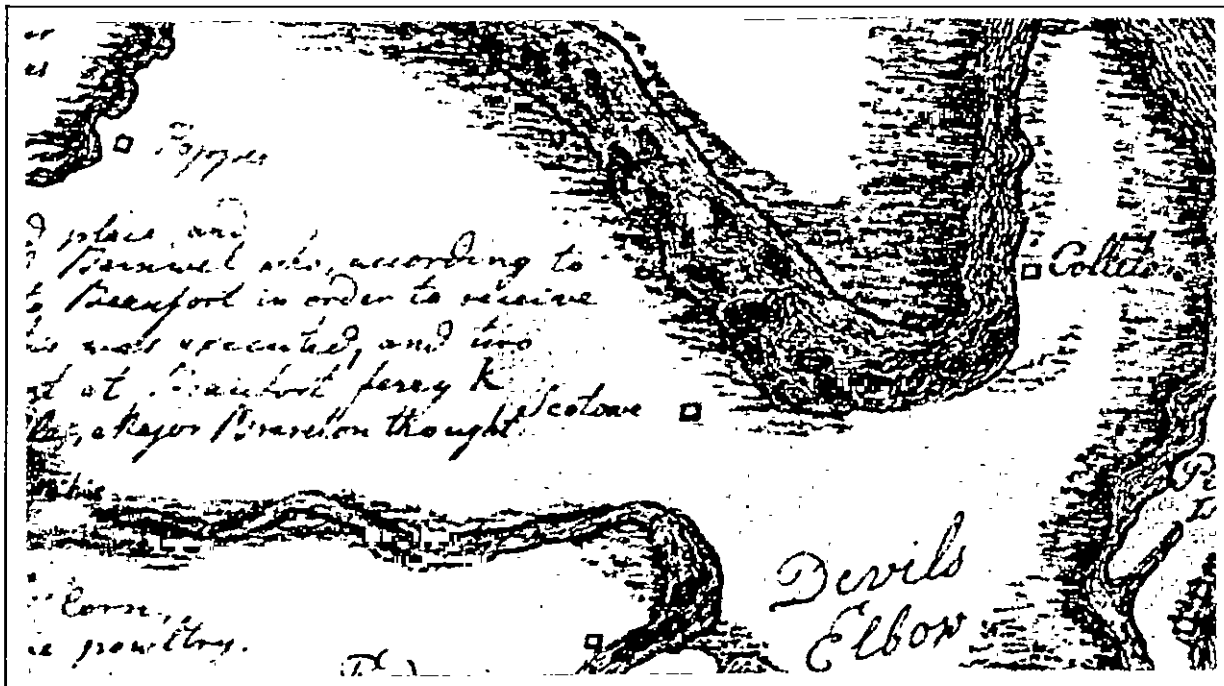

Figure 15. The project area from ca. 1780 (Scavenius Collection, Dartmouth College).

Colleton prior to his death in 1777. Given the condition of Beaufort County land records it may be possible to obtain a clear title on all of the various parcels.

Figure 16 "Map Showing the Location of the Lands of the South Carolina Land and Improvement Company" dates from 1877 and suggests (incorrectly as research has revealed) that the study parcel was part of the organization's holdings. It also reveals that there are at least two settlements on the survey tract — those of Woodward and Stoney. The location of these settlements is confirmed by the 1873 Law and Kirk map of Beaufort County.

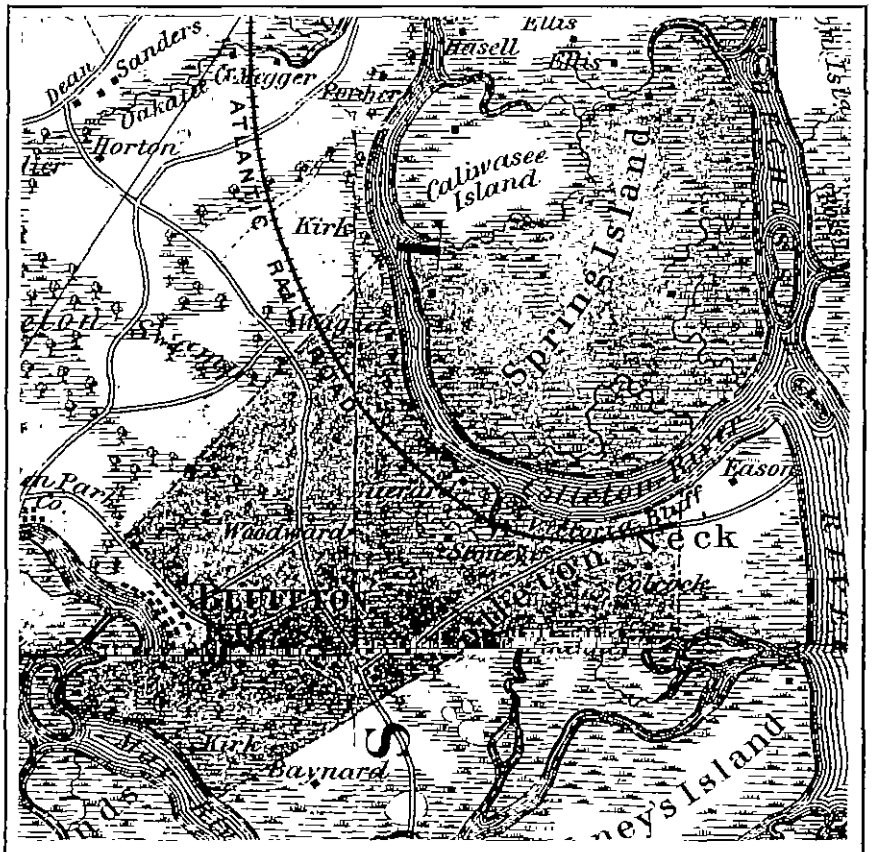

Figure 16. South Carolina Land and Improvement Company lands in the project area about 1877.

Figure 17 is the 1920 edition of the Okatie 15' topographic map published by the Corp of Engineers from field work conducted in 1912. This map is of exceptional importance since it reveals that the plantation settlement shown in Figure 14 was still standing. The only other structure on the study tract at this time was in the north central area adjacent to the marsh of Sawmill Creek.

Figure 18, from 1937, suggests that activity in the study area was minimal. The only structure shown for the tract is along US 278, opposite SC 462. Just off the tract, to the west, was the Belfair School, listed as being for "Negroes." A similar facility, Foot Point School, is situated off the tract to the east.

The title search for the study tract was exceedingly difficult. One and a half person days were devoted to this work during the reconnaissance study, with an additional two person days during the intensive survey efforts. This work allowed a provisional chain to be developed, taking the property back to the Pope ownership in the antebellum. It was not, however, possible, to trace the ownership from Pope back to the colonial period.

TMS R600 032 0000 0001 is Crescent Plantation proper and consists of 665 acres. It is currently owned by Josephine W. Johnson and was inherited through the will of her husband, Malcomb Johnson (Beaufort County Probate Court WB J, page 111).

The main tract, Crescent Plantation, was acquired by Johnson from James B. Walker of Bluffton in 1945 for the purchase price of $8,000 (Beaufort County RMC, DB 63, page 58). At that time the property was described as being on the "Fording Island Public Road one mile north of

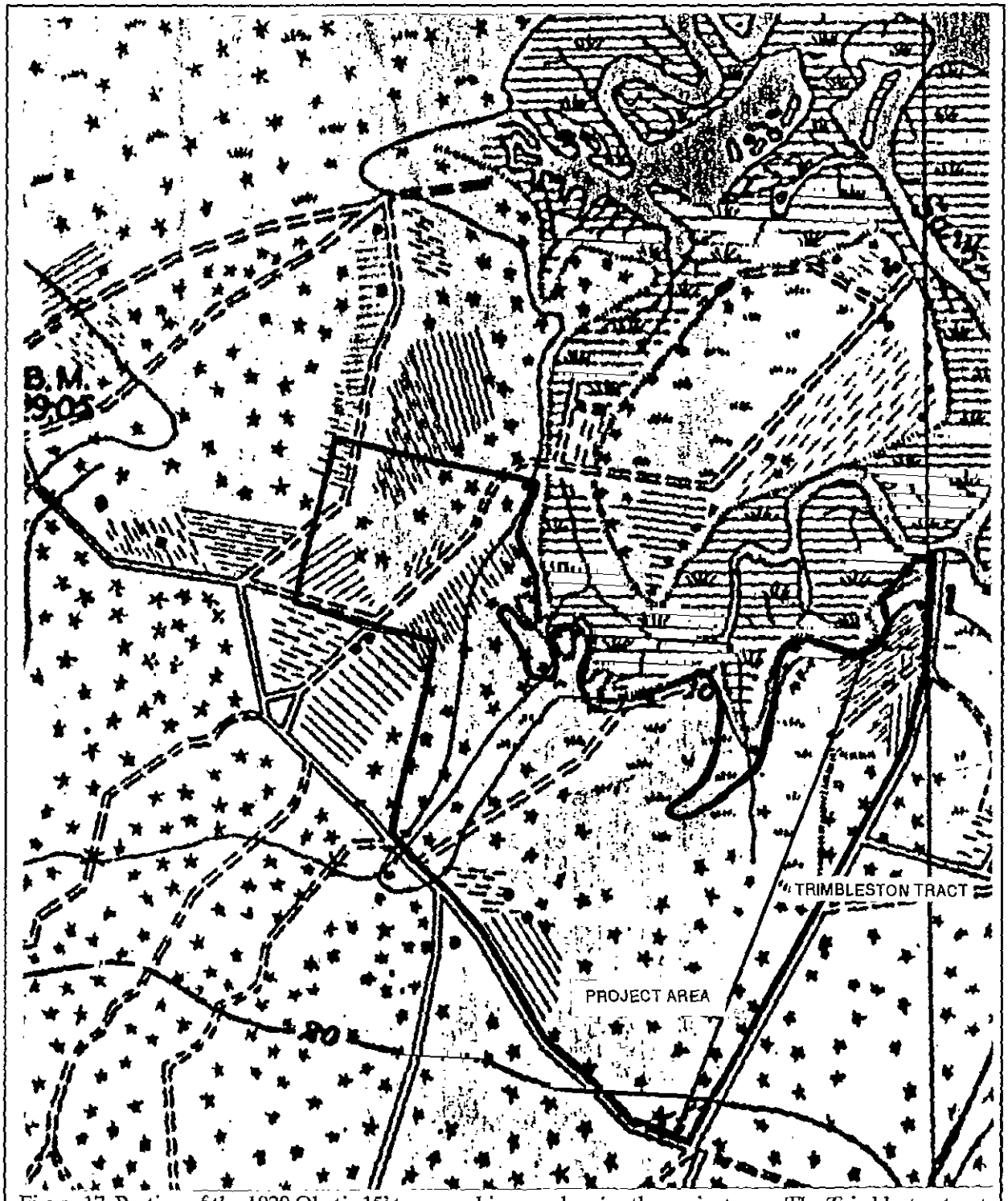

Figure 17. Portion of the 1920 Okatie 15' topographic map showing the project area. The Trimbleston tract was included in the reconnaissance study, but was excluded from this intensive examination.

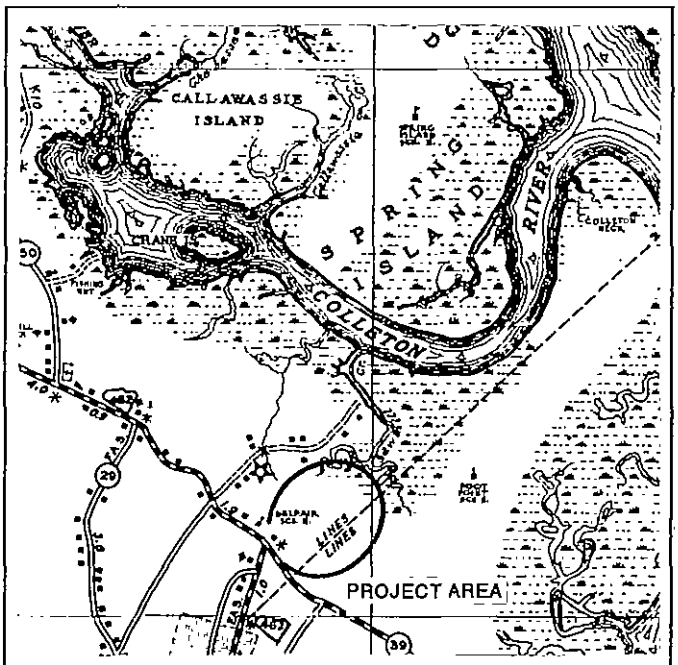

Figure 18. Portion of the 1937 General Highway and Transportation Map of Beaufort County.

Bluffton on the marshes of Chechessee River." The description indicated that it was bounded to the north by Oak Forest Plantation and the marshes of Chechessee, to the east by Trimblestone [sic] Plantation owned by the Simmons, to the south by Fording Island Road and portions of the old Hunting Island tract, and to the west by the Old Barnwell tract and a portion of Oak Forest Plantation. The deed also makes reference to a 1934 plat (Beaufort County RMC, PB 3, page 113) which is reproduced as Figure 19. The surveyor's notation on this plat reveals the only residents on the property were the "owner J.B. Walker and his mother's brother and family and saw three negro share-croppers or helps." Clearly the plantation, by the 1930s, was being little used.

Both the recital and the plat continued to use the plantation names of at least the early nineteenth century. What isn't, however, clear is what tract this plantation evolved from, especially when Figure 14 is compared to H.A.M. Smith's map of the Okeetee Barony (Figure 10).

Walker purchased the property in October 1905 from the Carolina National Bank of South Carolina for $1,500 (Beaufort County RMC, DB 27, page 307). The Bank had purchased the property, apparently as an investment, from William Elliott about a year earlier, in September 1904, for $1,266 (Beaufort County RMC, DB 26, page 31). The Bank made about 18% profit on their investment — not a bad return for the time, even counting the taxes paid on the land.

It was Elliott, however, who most profited from his sale of Crescent Plantation, since he had purchased it for only $5 from Washington A. Clark in December 1903 (Beaufort County RMC, DB 24, page 656). After only eight months time he was to see a return of $1,261 on his $5 investment.

The seller, Washington A. Clark, had purchased the tract in April 1899 at a sheriff's sale for only $50 (Beaufort County RMC, DB 22, page 342). The deed reveals that the plantation, "known as Crescent" was bounded to the north by Oak Forest Plantation and the Colleton River, to the east by Trimbleton Plantation, to the south by Hunting Island Plantation, and to the west by Oak Forest Plantation. At the time it was thought to contain "seven hundred acres more or less." The property was being sold as a result of a judgement brought against Eliza C. Woodward for $818 in favor of Walter B. Montieth.

Woodward, of course, was the daughter of William and Sarah Pope and had acquired the property through her mother's will (Beaufort County Will P-002), dated March 20, 1873.

Although it was thought originally that the property had passed through the hands of the South Carolina Land and Improvement Company, they have failed to show up in the title. It is possible, of course, that they had an option on the property, especially since they were acquiring property around the time of Sarah Pope's death. The deeds for the company's acquisitions, however, reveal that Pope held at least some lands which almost certainly were the Crescent Plantation. This is further confirmed by Bailey

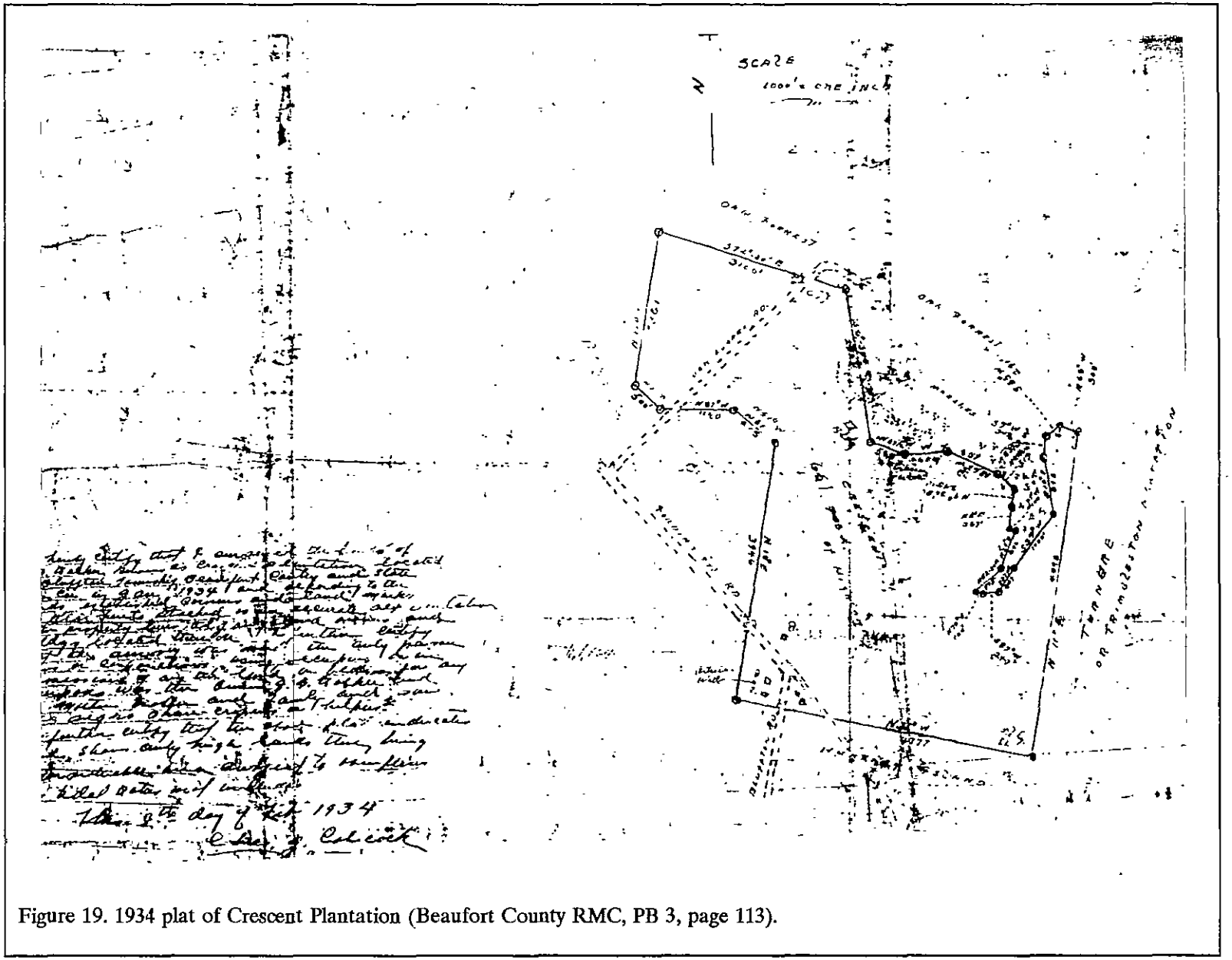

Figure 19. 1934 plat of Crescent Plantation (Beaufort County RMC, PB 3, page 113).

(1984:451). The South Carolina Land and Improvement map also makes reference to the Woodward settlement. This was almost certainly Mrs. E.C. Woodward, who in the 1870 census was 57 years old and residing in St. Lukes Parish.

William Pope, often called Squire Pope, was a prominent land owner in the Beaufort area during the late antebellum. With the fall of Hilton Head in 1861, Pope took refuge in Sandersville, Georgia, where he died in 1862 (Bailey 1984:451-452). A March 20, 1862 letter from Gertrude Pope Woodward in Sandersville, Georgia informed Heppy (Heph J. Pope, one of Pope's granddaughters) of his death, remarking, "his health was bad for a long time — but the loss of his property, & the loss of his grandchildren, all coming upon him at once, was more than he could bear, [and] he soon sunk under the weight of his afflictions" (South Carolina Historical Society, Pope Correspondence File 11-550).

At least by 1868 Pope's wife, Sarah, had returned to the Beaufort area and was living in Bluffton. In one letter Sarah Pope remarks:

> our village is very dull, everybody seems discouraged at the times and finding it so hard to live — It is a great pity for this is such a pleasant place to live at, if it was only the same that it was before the war (South Carolina Historical Society, Pope Correspondence File 11-550).

Only a year later she comments to another granddaughter, Ellen:

> life is so uncertain I don't know if we will ever meet again in this world, I see nothing to live for, all trouble and disappointment (South Carolina Historical Society, Pope Correspondence File 11-550).

None of her letters, however, mentions restoration efforts and previous research (Trinkley 1989:54-55, Trinkley 1990:28-31) reveals the complexity of the Pope holdings.

As mentioned previously, it has not been possible to determine how Pope came to acquire Crescent Plantation, or from what tract or tracts in the Colleton Barony it was carved. We do know, however, that Camp Plantation, when originally created by Louisa Graves in the second quarter of the nineteenth century at its sale to "Mrs. Pinckney and Mrs. Izard" contained about 1,370 acres, although by the end of the nineteenth century it was described as only 700 acres. The missing 670 acres is almost exactly the acreage of modern Crescent Plantation — providing at least one clue to its origin.

Although this brief overview of the available historic documents fails to reveal precise building locations, it does provide a preliminary (and provisional) chain of title for the study parcel, combined with clear documentation of the area's significance. Our current study also warns us that there are many gaps in the historical documents, making the archaeological research that much more significant to our understanding of the area.

IDENTIFIED SITES

Introduction

A total of ten sites were identified during the intensive archaeological survey of the Crescent Plantation tract (Figure 20). Each of these sites is briefly described and its National Register eligibility is assessed in this section. One of the sites, a prehistoric Stalling phase midden, is recommended as eligible for inclusion on the National Register, while a second site, a historic owner's residence, is recommended as potentially eligible. Recommendations regarding the sites, primarily associated with green spacing or data recovery, are included in the following section.

38BU1711

This site is situated at the south edge of the field on the western third of the study tract and was first encountered during the reconnaissance level study. At that it was identified on the basis of surface materials found during the pedestrian survey. The central UTM coordinates are E513840 N3569780 and the site is found on a level terrace overlooking a drainage to the south and east, with the ground sloping in those directions. Elevations in the site core are about 18 feet AMSL. The soils in site area were sandy, identified as the Wando series.

At the time of the reconnaissance survey the site area was beginning to be heavily overgrown in grass and second growth pine. Surface visibility was under 25%. Conditions had not changed dramatically by the time of the intensive study, although it was immediately noted that almost no materials were found on the surface.

Only five artifacts could be recovered under the original survey conditions, they were spread out over an area measuring about 150 feet in diameter. The materials recovered include four undecorated whitewares and one small prehistoric sherd. Occasional brick fragments were observed in the field, but much more common were fragments of oyster shell, likely plowed out of subsurface middens. The intensive survey included a brief walk-over survey which identified only one additional surface item — a fragment of green bottle glass. The site boundaries shown in Figure 21 are based on the dispersion of shell and a small quantity of brick and mortar. The site measures about 75 feet north-south by 125 feet east-west — slightly smaller than originally estimated during the reconnaissance study.

Survey Transect 5 had failed to identify any materials associated with the site, so site testing consisted of an initial cruciform in the eastern edge of the open area. Shovel tests were excavated at 25 foot intervals covering an area measuring 150 feet north-south by 100 feet east-west. When none of these tests produced artifacts, additional tests were conducted in the field area, extending just within the southern woods line (Figure 21). A total of 21 shovel tests were excavated in this testing program. None of the tests yielded artifacts, although one did produce a small fragment of brick.

A 2-foot square test unit was excavated in the northeast quadrant of the site. The unit revealed a dark brown (10YR3/3) sandy plowzone about 0.7 foot in depth overlying a yellow (10YR7/6) sandy subsoil which was excavated to a depth of 1.1 feet to verify that no deeper deposits were present. A single fragment of green glass, recovered in the plowzone, was the only artifact present in the unit.

Data sets from this site are very scarce. Although the initial surface collection produced relatively few artifacts, the following intensive survey was able to identify even less. Likewise, the shovel tests and test unit were largely negative, producing only two specimens, No concentrations of shell or brick rubble were observed during the

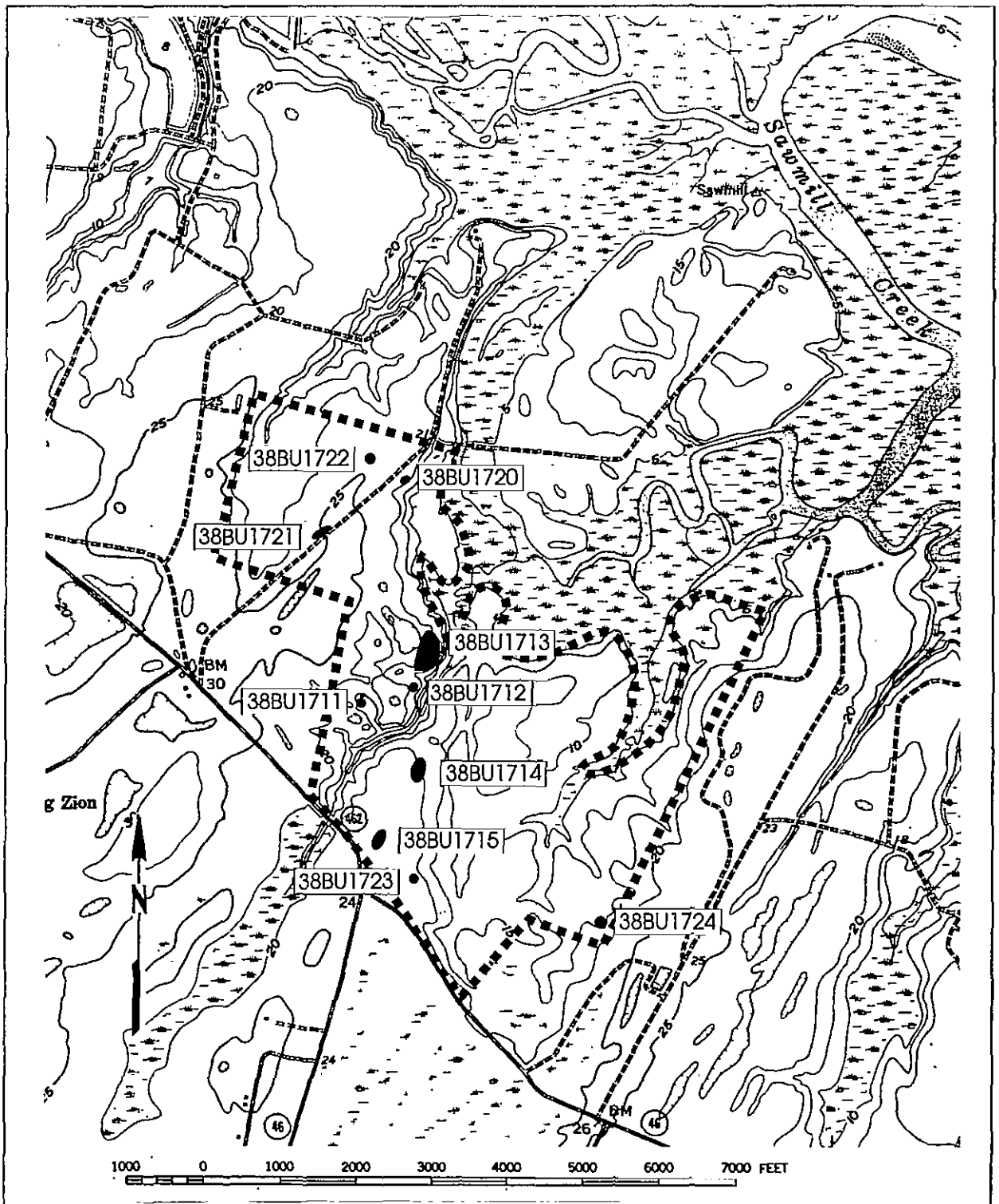

Figure 20. Sites identified on the Crescent Plantation survey tract.

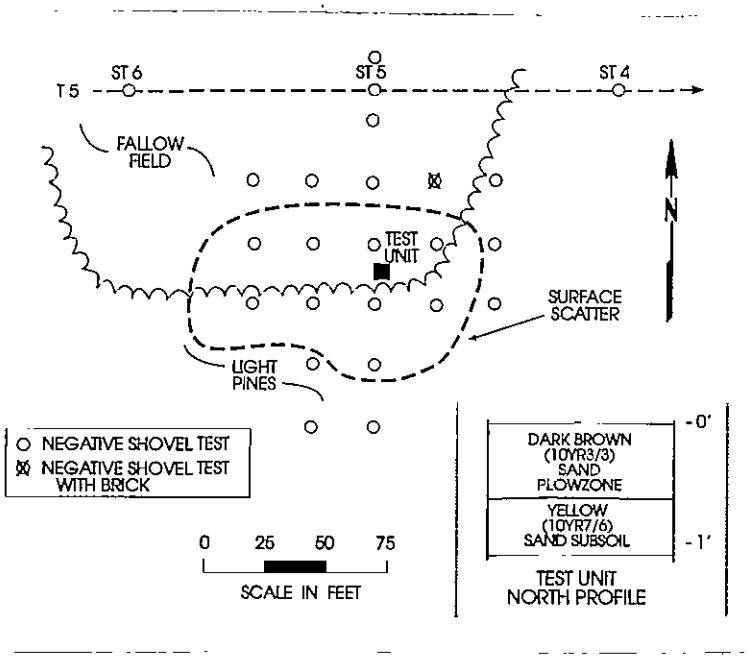

Figure 21. Sketch map and profile for 38BU1711.

intensive survey, so it seems unlikely that there are subsurface features.

This site is clearly indicated on any of the available historic maps, and we are inclined to believe that it may represent a tenant house. The prehistoric sherd is likely associated with one of the several prehistoric sites in the immediate area, or may represent the remains associated with an isolated camp. While there are a variety of questions appropriate to such prehistoric and historic settlements, this site's data sets do not seem capable of addressing these questions. Consequently, we recommend this site as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. No additional management activities are necessary, pending the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office.

38BU1712

This site was found during the reconnaissance on the east central edge of the western-most field, at an elevation of about 18 feet AMSL overlooking a steep slope eastward toward a tributary of Sawmill Creek. This slough appears to have at least some fresh water associated with it, given the vegetation and ponding. This, however, may represent the result of historic modifications. The site is situated on a slight rise of sand soil, identified as the Wando series. The central UTM coordinates are E514040 N3569820.

The site was partially exposed in a dirt road running between the slough and field edge, but was also traced into the field itself. Shell is abundant in this area, but does not appear to be concentrated in any particular area. Surface visibility was less than 25% and a thin stand of pines was also invading this area of the field. Five fragments of pottery were found dispersed in an area measuring about 50 feet in diameter. The recovered materials include four fragments of Stallings Plain and one probable Deptford Plain sherd.

During the intensive survey no materials were observed on the surface, but ST 1 on Transect 34 (later designated 500R500 for testing purposes) did produce two small sherds. These remains were found in woods on a level terrace immediately above the drainage to the east (Figure 22). The hardwoods in this area appear to be 40 to 50 years old, suggesting that the area had been previously cultivated (which is consistent with the profile found in the test unit at the site). In addition, we found that the creek is actively eroding westward, resulting in a high, steep bluff.

A series shovel tests were placed at 25 foot

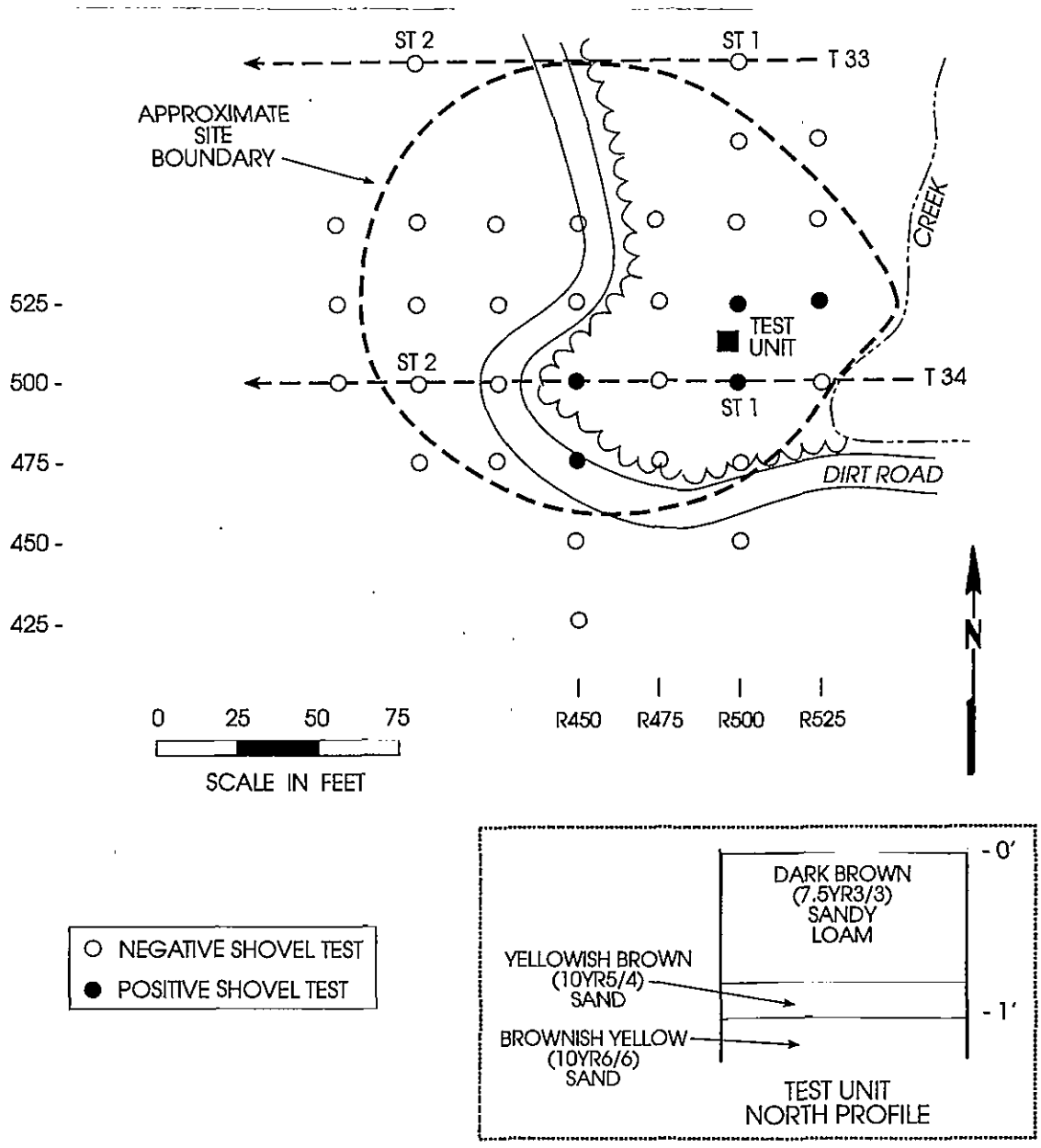

Figure 22. Sketch map and profile for 38BU1712.

intervals covering both the wooded area and the portion of the site originally found in the field to the west. Thirty-one shovel tests were excavated in the immediate site area, with five producing materials (Table 1).

A 2-foot square test unit was placed in the vicinity of three positive shovel tests at the western edge of the site (Figure 22). This unit produced five small sherds and revealed about 0.8 foot of dark brown (7.5YR3/3) sandy loam overlying a yellowish-brown (10YR5/4) sand on top of a brownish-yellow (10YR6/6) sand. This profile is consistent with Wando soils and suggests that even the portion of the site now in hardwoods had been previously cultivated.

The site boundaries, estimated to be 150 feet in diameter, are based on both the original surface scatter and the current site testing. The material is suggestive of a very small campsite, possibly of a single family unit, visiting the slough area and taking advantage of the sandy rise. Material is sparse and the data sets present are limited to pottery, much of which is heavily fragmented from plowing. No shell lenses or zones were encountered and shell, while present on the surface, is sparse. Based on this, we recommend the site as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. With the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office, we do not believe any additional management activities will be necessary at this site.

Table 1.
Artifacts Recovered from Testing at 38BU1712.

	Deptford CM	St. Catherines UID	Small Sherds
475R450	1		
500R450	1		
500R500			2
525R500		1	2
525R525			1
Test Unit 1			5

CM = cord marked, UID = unidentified

38BU1713

This site, also first identified during the reconnaissance study, was thought to be very similar to 38BU1712 — indicating how wrong site assessments can sometimes be during reconnaissance studies.

The site was thought be limited to a small rise of sandy Wando soils about 50 feet in diameter and situated on the field edge, overlooking the slough of Sawmill Creek. Materials recovered from this site during the reconnaissance included one Deptford Plain sherd, one Deptford Fabric Impressed sherd, one Irene Complicated Stamped sherd, and one unidentifiable sherd. The collection seemed to reveal a diversity similar to 38BU1712, reflective of several episodes of short-term use. It seemed reasonable to speculate that these sites were used because of their proximity to the slough and there higher elevations than the surrounding field.

During the intensive survey we found that shell and artifacts were uniformly present from this location northward for nearly 800 feet and extended from the slough or creek westward for a maximum of about 300 feet. The central UTM coordinates for the site were found to be E514080 N3570100. Much of the site is in fallow field, although toward the southern end, the area originally identified in the reconnaissance study includes sparse pines. A dirt road is found around the eastern edge of the site, leading to a trailer and then westward toward Malcomb Johnson Road (Figure 23).

Although the site was overgrown in weeds, reducing surface visibility in most areas to less than 25% (Figure 24), a small collection was made. The materials from the site include two Stallings Plain, one Deptford Plain, one Irene Plain, and one chert flake. In assessing the results of the 100 foot interval survey we noticed that of the approximately 16 shovel tests covering the site area, only one had produced materials. In spite of this our pedestrian survey had identified an area of very dense surface shell (Figures 23 and 25) following a sandy ridge running roughly north-south through the area, parallel to the slough. In addition, we also found what appeared to be a

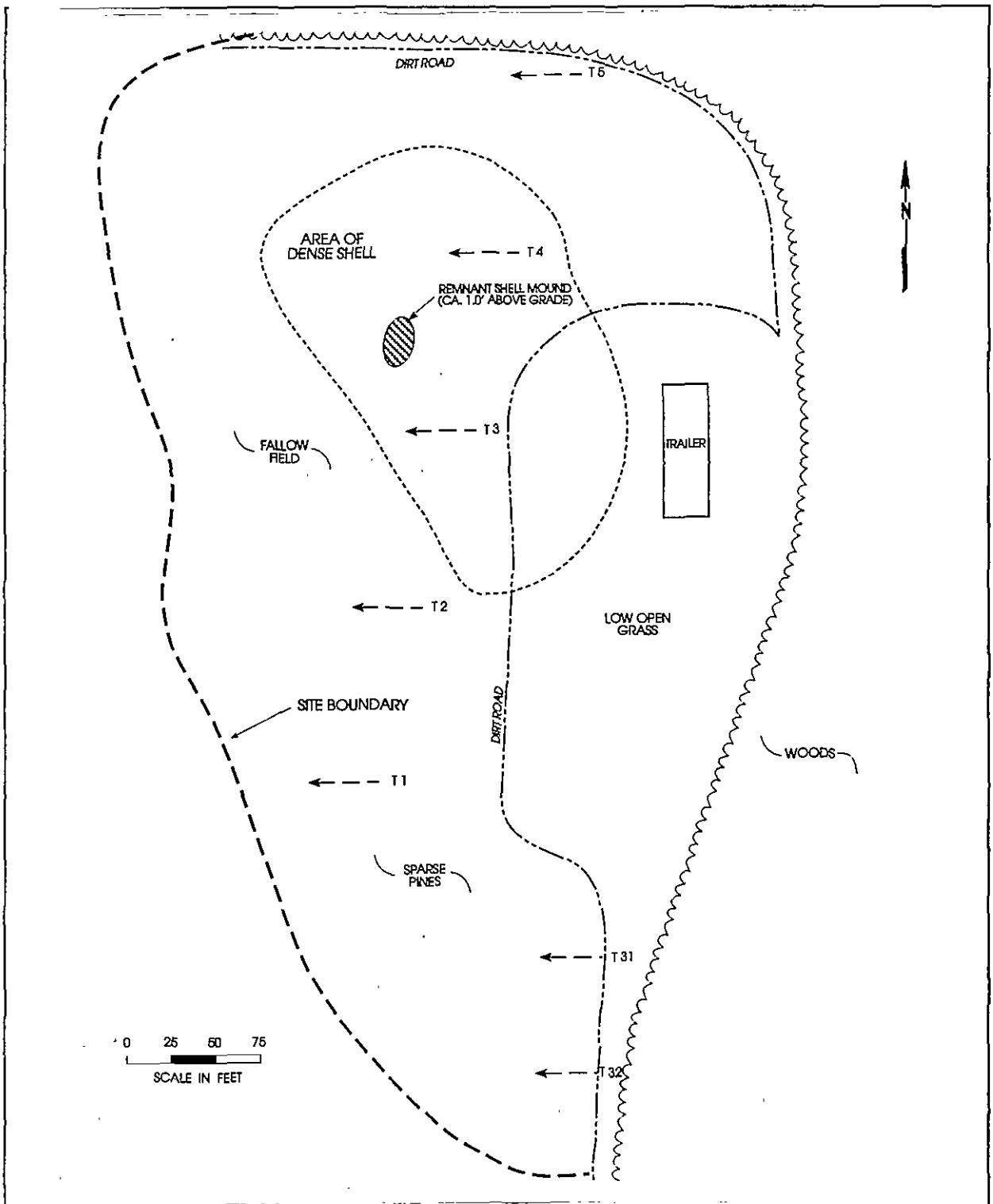

Figure 23. Sketch map of 38BU1713.

Figure 24. Shovel testing 38BU1713. Photograph taken from the site core looking south-southeast.

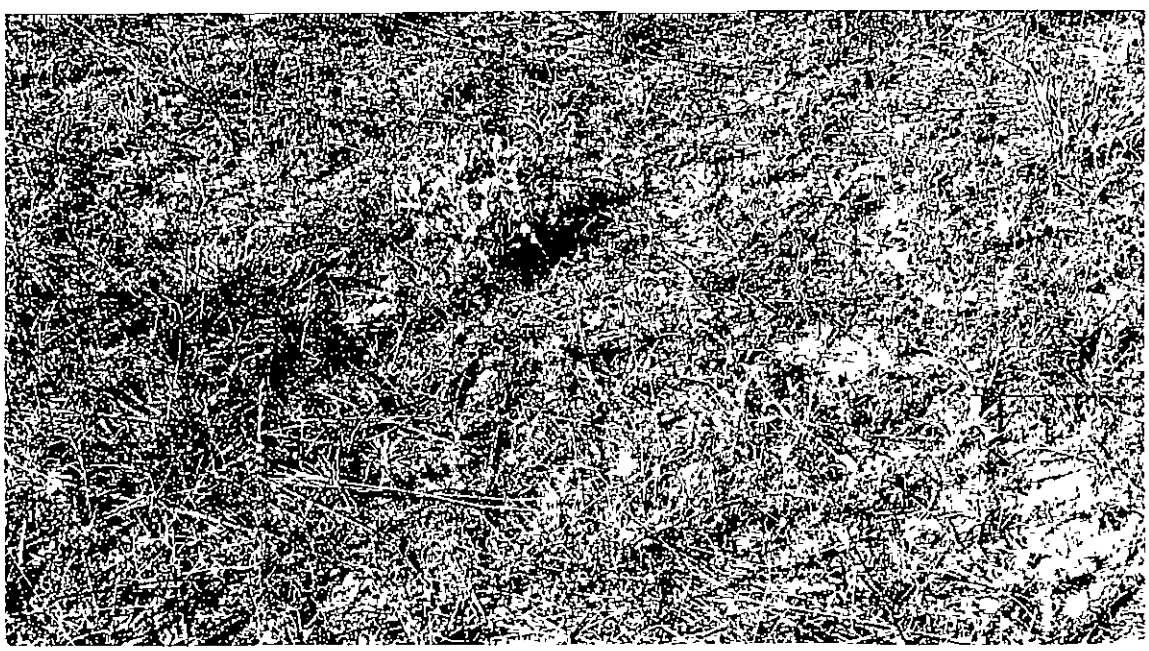

Figure 25. View of shell on surface in the site core.

Table 2.
Artifacts from testing of the northern third of 38BU1713.

	Stallings	Deptford		St. Catherines		Savannah					Worked
	Plain	CM	Plain	CM	Plain	CS	Comp	Plain	Small	Bone	Bone
375R475	1										
400R475	1								2		
425R475							1				
450R500									3		
475R475									1		
475R500		1							2		
500R450				1							
500R500			1								
500R525						1		3	1		
500R600									1		
500R625									1		
525R425									1		
525R475									1		
525R500						1					
525R525									2		
525R550									1		
525R575									1		
550R425									1		
550R475								1			
550R575		1									
600R500									1		
600R575				1							
650R500		1									
675R500		1									
Test Unit 1	23									12	1
Test Unit 2	1									4	
Test Unit 3	8									2	

CM = cord marked, CS = check stamped, Comp = complicated stamped

remnant shell mound, composed of oyster shell, periwinkle, and whelk, within this concentration area. This suggested that more intensive testing of the site was absolutely essential for assessment purposes.

Our first testing focused on the northern third of the site, shown in Figure 26, covering Transects 4 and 5, and extending northward into the woodsline. In this area 77 shovel tests were excavated, with 23 (30%) producing artifacts and an additional 11 (14%) shell but no artifacts. The materials recovered from this testing are tabulated in Table 2.

The testing not only revealed the diversity, and density, of the site area, but also suggested that shell and artifacts may be mutually exclusive. That is, where shell is dense, perhaps representing remnant middens, there are relatively few artifacts. And, where artifact density is high, perhaps representing domestic areas, shell middens were absent. Clearly additional research is necessary to confirm this suspicion.

Three 2-foot units were excavated, primarily on the southern edge of this testing, in the core of the site. Test Units 1 and 2 revealed a mixed plowzone with dense shell, overlying yellowish-brown (10YR5/6) subsoil. Test Unit 3, however, was excavated in an area of remnant midden. This unit revealed midden to the depth of

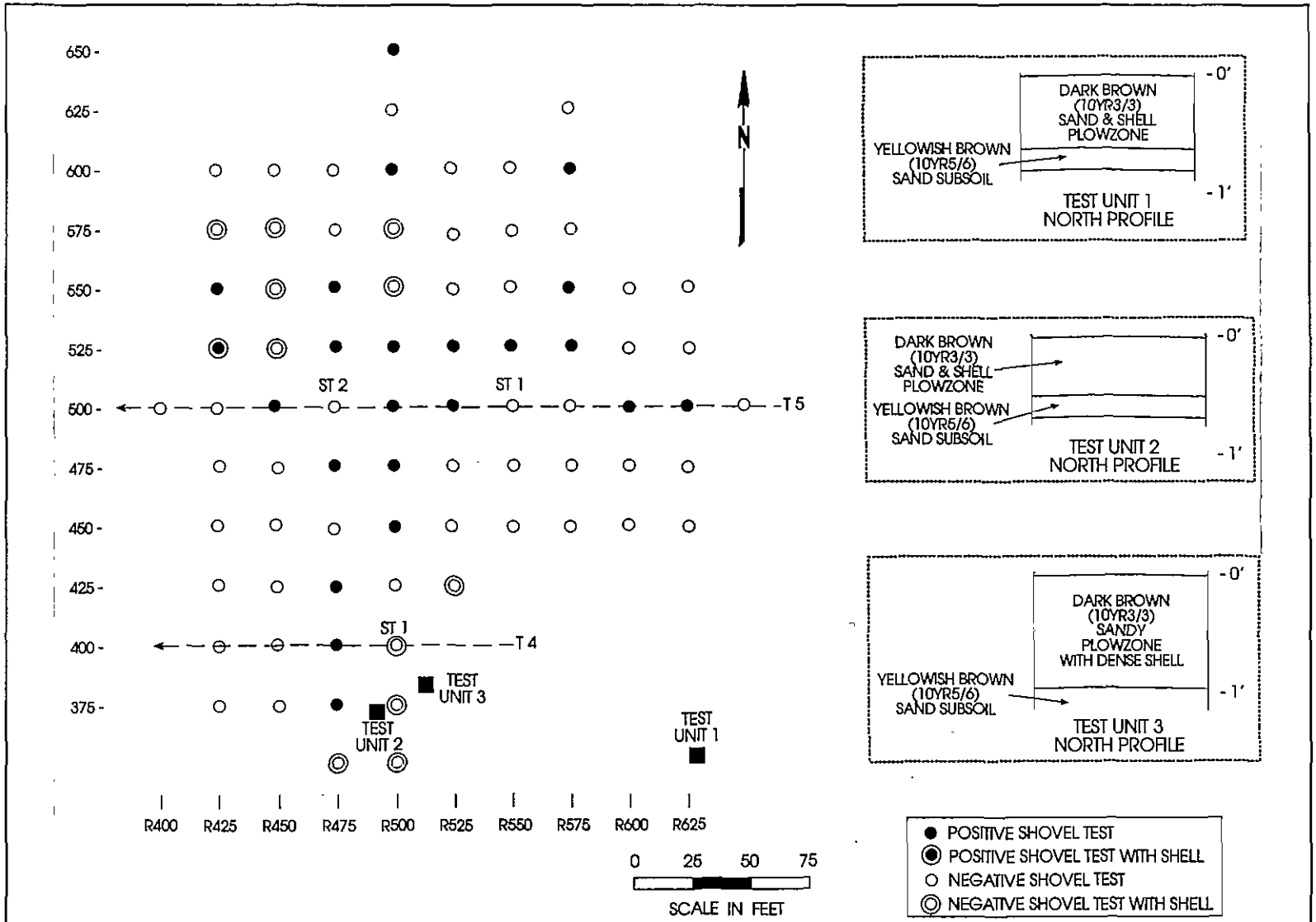

Figure 26. Testing locations and profiles of units in the northern third of 38BU1713.

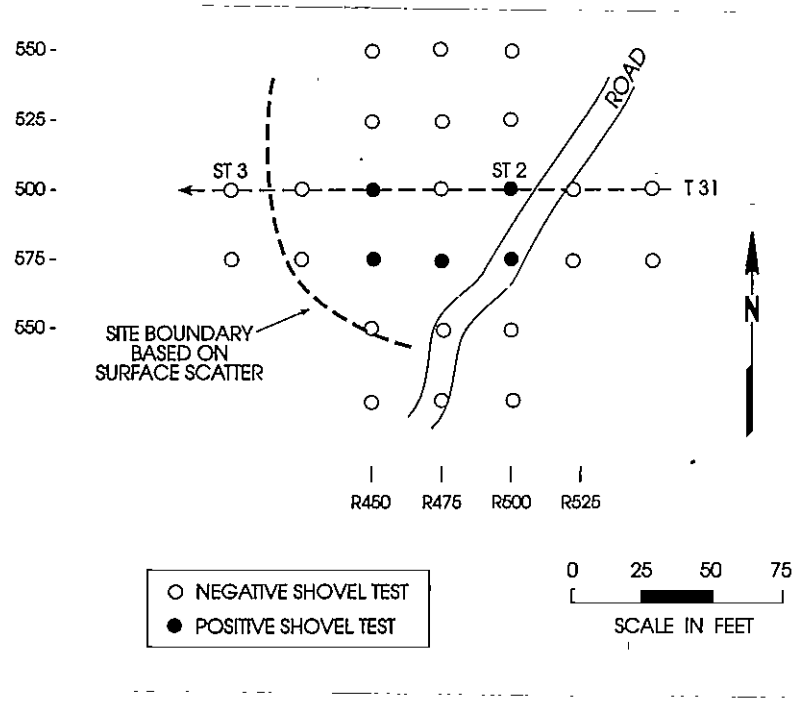

Figure 27. Sketch map of the south edge of 38BU1713.

about 1.0 foot overlying the same sandy subsoil (Figure 26). In addition, these three units are interesting since only Stallings pottery was recovered. Coupled with the pottery was a fragment of worked antler from one unit and each unit produced a moderate quantity of animal bone — indicating that the shell density is sufficient to preserve faunal remains, in spite of plowing.

The south edge of the site was also explored, although in considerably less detail. Shovel Test 2 on Transect 31 (identified as 500R500 in the southern edge testing program) yielded one Stallings Plain sherd (Figure 27). We chose to test off this positive, opening a total of 24 additional shovel tests. Four of these (17%) were positive (see Table 3).

This site exhibits a wide range of data sets. We have identified an area of what appears to be intact midden, as well as site core which exhibits very dense (although fragmented) shell. While not conclusive, this strongly suggests that features will be found in the site core. Based on comparison with other sites these may include shellfish steaming pits, structures, and possibly burials. We have found a range of Late Archaic to Mississippian wares present in the tests, although it appears that the site core is dominated by the Late Archaic Stallings pottery, which dates to as early as about 2500 B.C. The test units have also revealed that animal bone is well preserved in the site core, in spite of plowing. It appears that the shell has not only neutralized the acidic soils, but has also helped minimize fragmentation. Finally, the testing has also produced one piece of worked bone — a probable antler projectile point, a tool common in the Late Archaic and Early Woodland Stallings and Thom's Creek sites.

The range of questions appropriate for Stallings phase sites is quite substantial, primarily because so few have been professionally examined.

Table 3.
Artifacts Recovered from Shovel Testing at the Southern Edge of 38BU1713.

	Stallings Plain	Deptford CM	Irene CS	Irene Small
475R450			1	
475R475	2	1		
475R500		1		
500R450				1
500R500	1			

CM = cord marked, CS = complicated stamped

Chief among the research interests include efforts to explore the subsistence base of the Stallings people living at the site. Explaining the research at Mims Point in Edgefield County on the Savannah River, Sassaman notes that, "little is known about the subsistence patterns of Late Archaic populations in the Middle Savannah River Valley" (Sassaman 1993:9). Little more is known about the Stallings subsistence pattern along the coast, especially since much of the work has either not been written up (such as at Spanish Mount on Edisto Island) or has not produced large faunal collections (for example, although Espenshade et al. [1994] examined a Stallings midden on Spring Island, no faunal material was collected). Consequently, research at 38BU1713 has the potential to explore subsistence research using unbiased samples collected through both flotation and waterscreening.

In addition, Sassaman (1993:8) makes the important observation that large Stallings sites typically represent a "complex amalgam of long-term, repeated occupations" while small sites — such as 38BU1713 — have the potential to help refine typological and chronological issues. Fundamental to this is the collection of pottery in discrete features with associated charred material for radiometric dating. Although such features are not proven to exist at 38BU1713, the dense, apparently intact midden suggests that they will be found. In addition, our own recent investigation of Thom's Creek wares at Secessionville (38CH1456) suggests that typological issues must also be tackled using a broad spectrum of petrographic analyses. Such work has never be undertaken in any methodic way at a Stallings site. The presence of seemingly large quantities of Stallings wares suggests that this approach is practical at 38BU1713.

Sassaman also outlines a range of other research issues. Although his "settlement organization" topics focus on the probability of non-shell middens along the Savannah being precursors to the large shell middens, it seems that his observations concerning the function of the various sites is reasonable and supported by a broad range of research. Exploration of 38BU1713 is expected to help address similar questions for the coastal region. Careful examination of the midden should be incorporated with the opening of aerially broad expanses of the site. This may reveal distinctions between domestic areas and trash areas which have been suggested by the shovel testing data.

It is clear from even this abbreviated discussion of research potential that 38BU1713 has the ability to address a broad range of issues important to our understanding of Stallings phase sites. Consequently, we recommend 38BU1713 as eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion D. The site should either be avoided, with preservation in place, or should be subjected to detailed data recovery excavations.

38BU1714

This site was initially encountered during the reconnaissance study and was thought to represent a fairly large site situated at the north end of the field in the central third of the survey tract. At the time of the reconnaissance study this field was fairly open, exhibiting surface visibility from 25 to 50%, with the higher visibility associated with a wildlife food plot used by hunters. The central UTM coordinates for the site are E514080 N3569500 and the site was estimated to measure about 350 feet north-south and 150 feet east-west.

The topography in the field is fairly level, although careful examination reveals that the site is situated on a low sand ridge, at an elevation of about 15 feet AMSL, parallel to an inland slough swamp of Sawmill Creek to the east. The soils are well drained Wando sands.

Both prehistoric and historic materials are associated with this site during the initial study. Prehistoric materials included two Deptford Plain sherds, seven small sherds, and a chert flake. Historic materials included four undecorated whitewares, one undecorated pearlware, one green edged pearlware, one fragment of aqua glass, and one slate fragment. Also present in the field, but not collected were a number of brick and mortar

fragments.

Based on the location, the linear orientation, and the diversity of materials, this site was suggested to represent the Woodward settlement shown on several historic maps, including the 1877 map for the South Carolina Land and Improvement Company (Figure 11). It may also be the earlier Pope settlement.

The current survey found the site area essentially as reported in the earlier reconnaissance investigation. Materials were still present on the surface, defining boundaries roughly corresponding to the natural topography. Materials declined toward the eastern slough, toward the toe of the ridge to the west, and toward the low woods to the north of the site. The southern end of the field contained second growth pine and while materials were found in this area they were very sparse.

Surface materials in the northern third of the site included two undecorated pearlwares, one blue hand painted pearlware, two undecorated whitewares, two blue transfer printed whitewares, two alkaline glazed stonewares, one fragment of blue glass, one fragment of clear glass, one Thom's Creek Plain sherd, and three small prehistoric sherds. In contrast, the central third of the field produced two undecorated whitewares, one kaolin pipe stem, four St. Catherines Cord Marked sherds, one St. Catherines sherd with an unidentifiable surface treatment, two Deptford Cord Marked sherds, three Deptford Plain sherds, and one unidentified prehistoric sherd. Although the boundary was indistinct, no materials were collected from the surface of the southern end of the field.

Only one of the initial 100-foot interval shovel tests through this area produced artifacts. Shovel Test 2 from Transect 68 yielded one Thom's Creek Reed Drag and Jab sherd. In an effort to improve the collection from this site, and attempt to identify subsurface historic materials associated with the antebellum occupation of the tract, we conducted 50-foot shovel tests on north-south lines through the entire field (Figure 28). Of the 112 shovel tests only five produced materials and all of these remains were prehistoric. Test 1000R200 produced one chert Caraway point; the test at 1200R200 yielded two small sherds; 1200R300 produced one Deptford UID sherd and one small prehistoric sherd; 1250R250 contained one St. Catherines Cord Marked sherd; and the shovel test at 1250R300 produced a small sherd.

A two-foot square unit was excavated at the north end of the site, in the vicinity of the densest surface material. A single porcelain ceramic was recovered from this unit. It revealed about 0.9 foot of brown (10YR5/3) sand overlying a brownish-yellow (10YR6/6) sand subsoil with distinct plowscars at the base of the unit.

Table 4.
Mean Ceramic Date for 38BU1714.

	Date Range	Mean Date (xi)	(fi)	fi x xi
Pearlware, blue hand painted	1780-1820	1800	1	1800
edged	1780-1830	1805	1	1805
undecorated	1780-1830	1805	3	5415
Whiteware, blue trans printed	1831-1865	1848	2	3696
undecorated	1813-1900	1860	6	11169
			13	23,876

23,876 ÷ 13 = 1836.6

This site has produced a small, but interesting, historic assemblage. Perhaps most interesting is that the collection does include some early nineteenth century materials and the mean ceramic date of the collection (reconnaissance and intensive surveys combined) is 1836.6 (Table 4). This is without question the earliest historic site identified on the study tract. The date, and the quality of materials present, suggest a relatively high status occupation — perhaps an overseer or even an owner of modest means. As such there are a variety of questions appropriate to such a site (see, for example, Adams et al. 1995 and Trinkley and Hacker 1996).

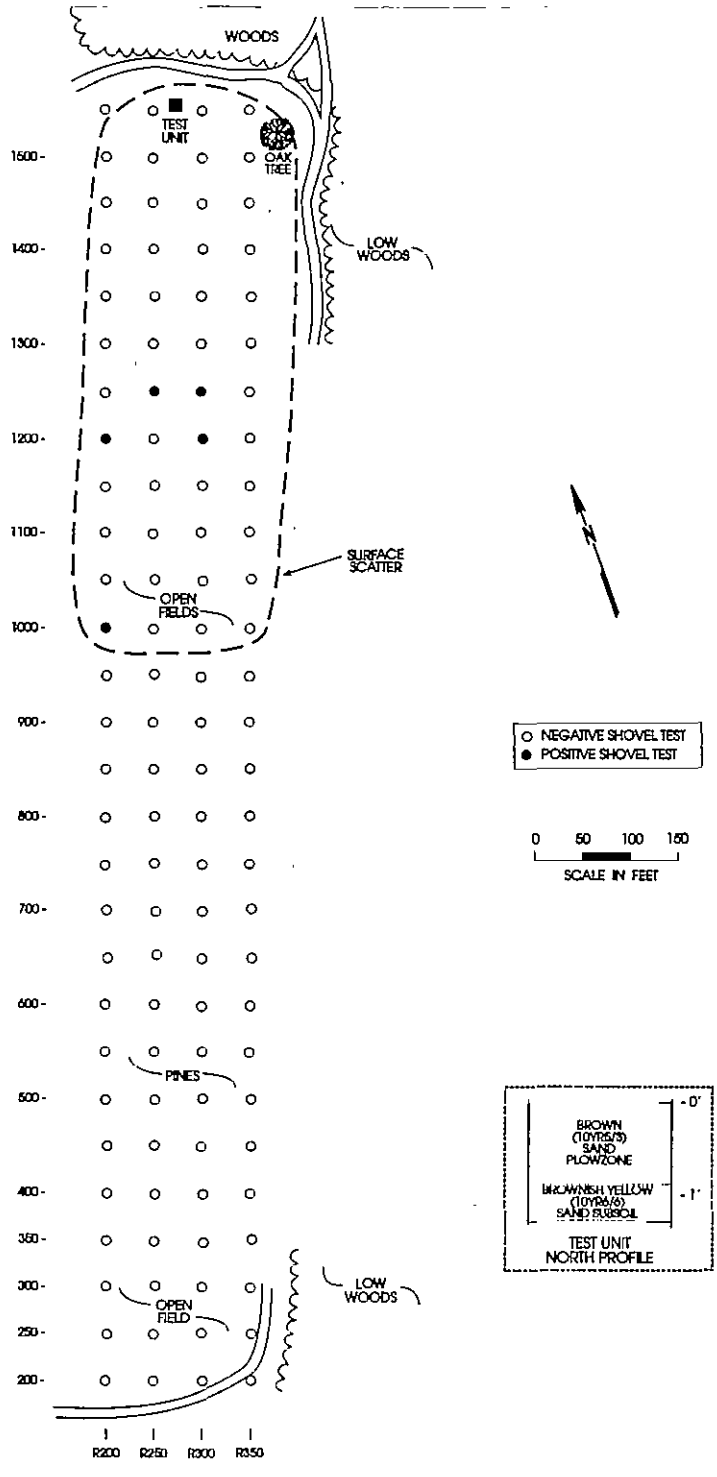

Figure 28. Sketch map and profile for 38BU1714.

Unfortunately, the data sets from the site are very limited. The surface collection (like most) is dominated by kitchen artifacts. The shovel tests not only fail to round out this assemblage — they fail to even produce any historic materials. Even the close interval testing fails to identify any material perhaps from this plantation occupation. It appears that the site has suffered from extraordinary plowing. Materials associated with the site appear to have been dispersed over a elongated area (collections during the current study cover an area about 150 feet east-west, but about 500 feet north-south). There seems to be little evidence that architectural remains, such as foundations or even activity areas have survived.

As a result, the site is recommended as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. This is unfortunate, since the remains in this field likely represent the main complex at Crescent Plantation from the antebellum period. Regardless, pending the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Officer no additional management activities for the site are recommended.

38BU1715

This site, initially identified during the reconnaissance study, is situated immediately west of the entrance road to the plantation in a fallow field which has been plowed within the last season. The central UTM coordinates are E513880 N3569300. The topography in this area is very level, with an elevation of about 20 feet AMSL and a slight slope westward toward a slough of Sawmill Creek. The soils associated with this site as not as well drained as those found with the other sites on the tract and are identified as Seewee sandy loams. Materials were found scattered over an area measuring about 200 feet in diameter during our initial study.

During the reconnaissance, artifacts were fairly dense at this site, in spite of the generally low surface visibility (under 25%). Materials recovered include nine undecorated whitewares, two polychrome stamped whitewares, one white porcelain, one yellowware, one fragment of brown glass, two fragments of blue glass, eight pieces of aqua glass, two fragments of milk glass, four manganese glass fragments, three pieces of clear bottle glass, and two window glass fragments. Also present on this site were abundant fragments of bricks and mortar.

By the time the intensive survey was conducted this field had grown up even more, but it was still possible to make another surface collection. Materials collected included eight undecorated whitewares, one annular whiteware, one yellowware, one white porcelain ceramic, one Bristol slipped stoneware fragment, one piece of brown glass, one fragment of black glass, one aqua glass fragment, one manganese glass, a fragment of a kaolin pipe stem, and one iron cotter pin.

This surface collection was used to define the boundaries of the site, which appeared to closely resemble those obtained during the previous investigation. The site was then cruciformed, with shovel tests being excavated at 25-foot intervals north-south and east-west (Figure 29). This began to reveal that the site was perhaps larger than indicated by the surface scatter. Eventually 42 shovel tests were excavated. Six of these contained artifacts, while an additional nine contained only brick fragments. The site boundary was defined on the basis of shovel tests with artifacts and those tests with only brick were

Table 5.
Artifacts Recovered from Shovel Testing at 38BU1715.

			Container Glass				
	WW	SW	br	cl	mg	aq	Nail
300R125	1		1				
325R125		1		1			
350R125	1		1		1		
375R125							1
375R150						1	
375R200							2

WW = whiteware, SW = stoneware, br = brown, cl = clear, mg = manganese, aq = aqua

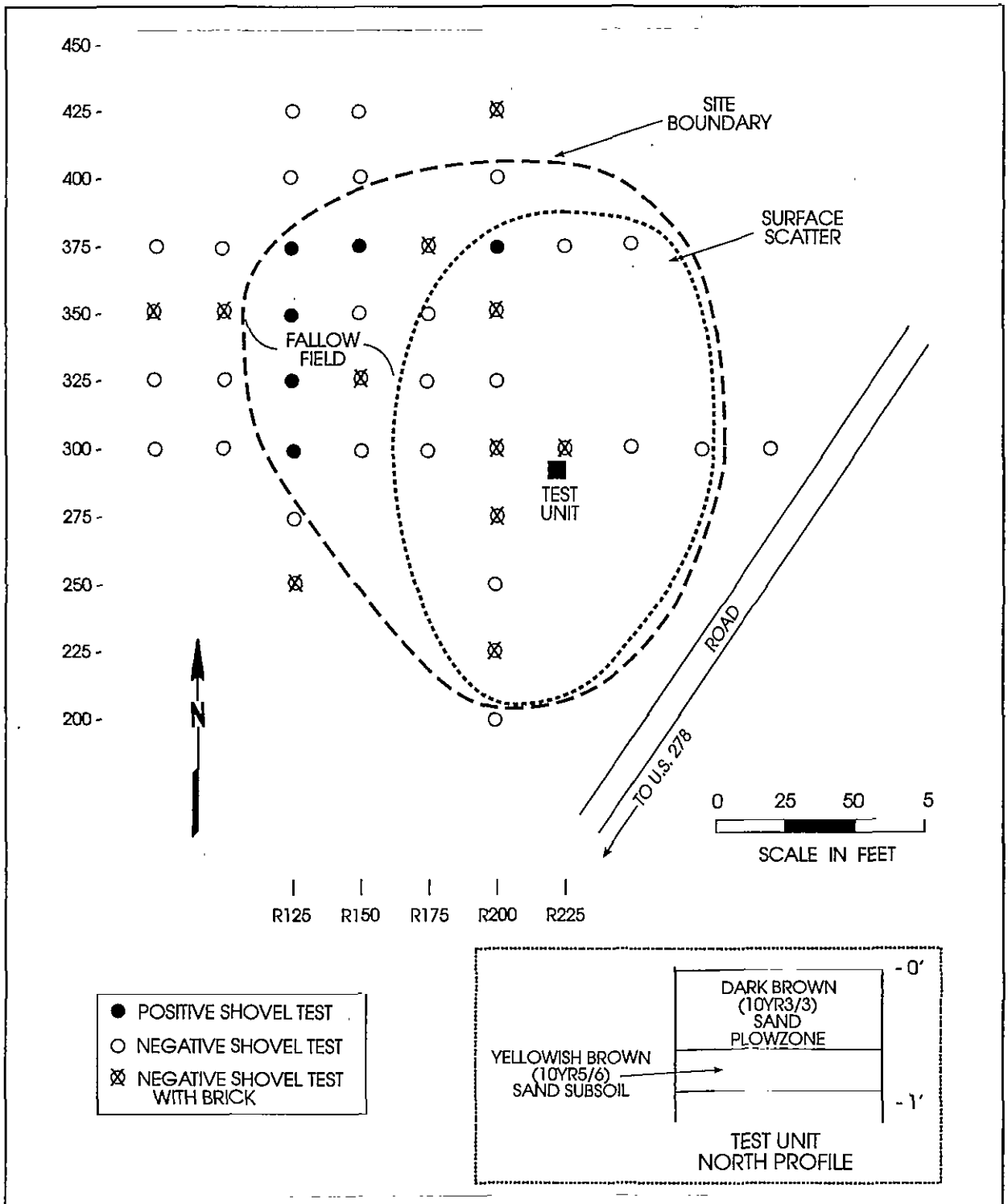

Figure 29. Sketch map and profile for 38BU1715.

excluded from the site boundary. We anticipated that brick, through mechanisms such as salvage and also because they were larger, might travel greater distances from their original locations than smaller artifacts. Consequently, this work suggested that the site measures about 200 feet north-south by about 175 feet east-west.

A 2-foot square test unit was excavated in the center of the site, revealing a rather thin plowzone of dark brown (10YR3/3) sand overlying a yellowish-brown (10YR5/6) sand subsoil. The thin plowzone may be the result of only limited plowing in this area. Less likely, it may suggest that the upper surface was stripped off with the building debris. Materials recovered include one undecorated whiteware ceramic, one fragment of manganese glass, two fragments of aqua glass, and six nail fragments. The quantity of architectural remains in the unit suggest that the unit was perhaps located in the immediate house area.

The materials recovered in the shovel tests are itemized in Table 5. These items, however, are consistent with those found in the previous shovel tests. Although this site may represent a portion of the Woodward settlement, the artifacts are more suggestive of an early twentieth century settlement. Consequently, we believe that this site likely is the single structure shown on the 1937 highway map (Figure 18), but not shown on the 1920 Okatie topographic map (Figure 17). The property owner reports that this was a relative's house which burned, although additional details were not collected during the reconnaissance level study.

This site may have the potential to address a broad range of questions regarding early twentieth settlement in the project area. There is relatively little known about tenancy in the sea islands, and even less about owners' residences. Nevertheless, the current level of survey could not fully document the condition of this site. For example, it is unclear if architectural remains are present or if additional buildings may be associated with the main house. It is also unclear if the structure was intentionally removed after burning. In addition, we have not pursued the potential for oral history information to supplement archaeological investigations.

Consequently, we recommend this site as potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register, recommending that additional testing, as well as oral history research take place to allow the site to be more fully assessed.

38BU1720

This site was identified during the intensive survey and is situated in the northeastern edge of the northern fallow field overlooking Sawmill Creek to the east. The central UTM coordinates are E513980 N3570700 and the site is at an elevation of about 20 feet AMSL. The soils in the site area are Wando sands and the surface visibility at the time of the intensive survey was good, with about 70% visibility.

The site was first encountered in a pedestrian overview of the area. Materials recovered include nine undecorated whitewares, one white porcelain, one stoneware fragment, one fragment of clear glass, one milk glass fragment, and three pieces of manganese glass. These items were spread over an area measuring about 170 feet northeast-southwest by 80 feet northwest-southeast. Curiously, the two transects crossing the site (numbers 21 and 22) failed to identify any materials (Figure 30).

Subsequently, 37 shovel tests were excavated on a grid pattern at 25-foot intervals. Six of these tests produced small quantities of primarily historic remains, although one Savannah Plain sherd was recovered from 275R250. The historic materials recovered from the site are identified in Table 6.

In addition, a 2-foot square test unit was excavated in the southern portion of the site, near several of the positive shovel tests. This unit yielded one undecorated whiteware, one blue transfer printed whiteware, three fragments of manganese glass, one unidentified stamped brass object, and four small prehistoric sherds. The unit revealed a plowzone about 0.8 foot in depth with distinct plowscars overlying the brownish-yellow (10YR6/8) sandy subsoil.

It is likely, based on the assemblage and

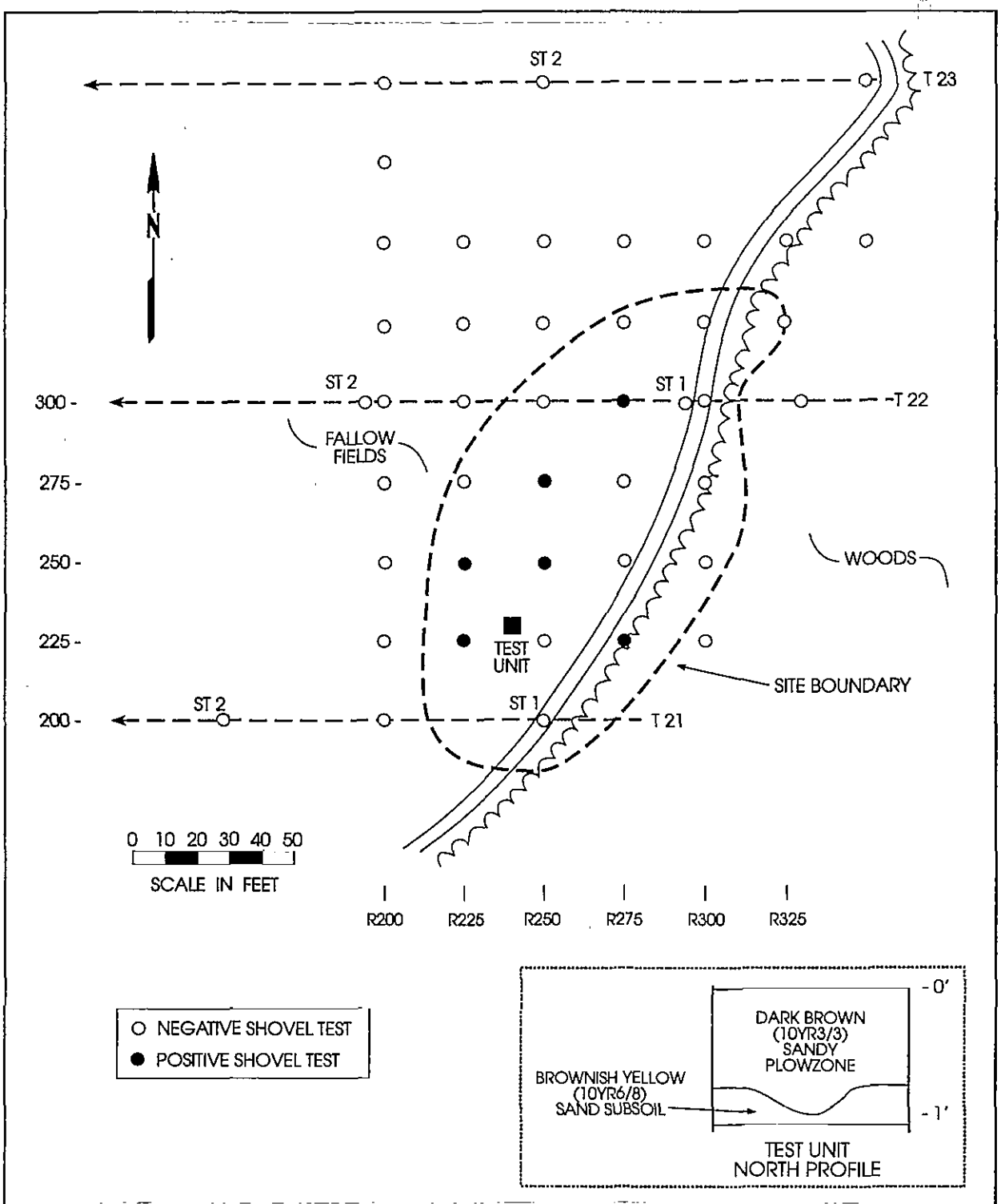

Figure 30. Sketch map and profile for 38BU1720.

location of this site, that it represents a tenant settlement. Such sites have the potential to contribute information regarding late nineteenth and early twentieth century lifeways that is available from no other sources. The data sets at 38BU1720, however, are relatively sparse. We did not, for example, identify concentrations of brick rubble which might have been associated with remnant foundations. Nor did we encounter intact structural remains or even trash piles in the woods to the east of the site. The presence of a relatively deep plowzone and distinct plowscars suggests that the site may have been damaged by cultivation, if not by its physical removal from the landscape.

Consequently, we recommend this site as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. Pending the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office no additional management activities are necessary.

Table 6.
Historic Artifacts Recovered from Shovel Testing at 38BU1720.

	WW	Porc	mg	PS	small sherd
225R225			1		
225R275	2				
250R225			2		1
250R250				1	
300R275		1			

WW = whiteware, Porc = porcelain, mg = manganese glass, PS = pipe stem

38BU1721

This site was encountered during the pedestrian survey. Although it failed to be found in the shovel testing, surface materials were observed as the transects were being walked. The site is situated at the southern end of the northwestern fallow field and is found on the west edge of a sand ridge overlooking a marsh or swamp slough about 800 feet to the west. Vegetation on the site, which is bisected by a dirt road, consists of very sparse grass. The fields, while currently fallow, appear to have been heavily plowed in the past, although the bulk of the materials were found in or adjacent to the dirt road. The central UTM coordinates for the site are E513760 N3570500.

Materials found on the surface include one undecorated whiteware ceramic, three fragments of clear glass, five small prehistoric sherds, two

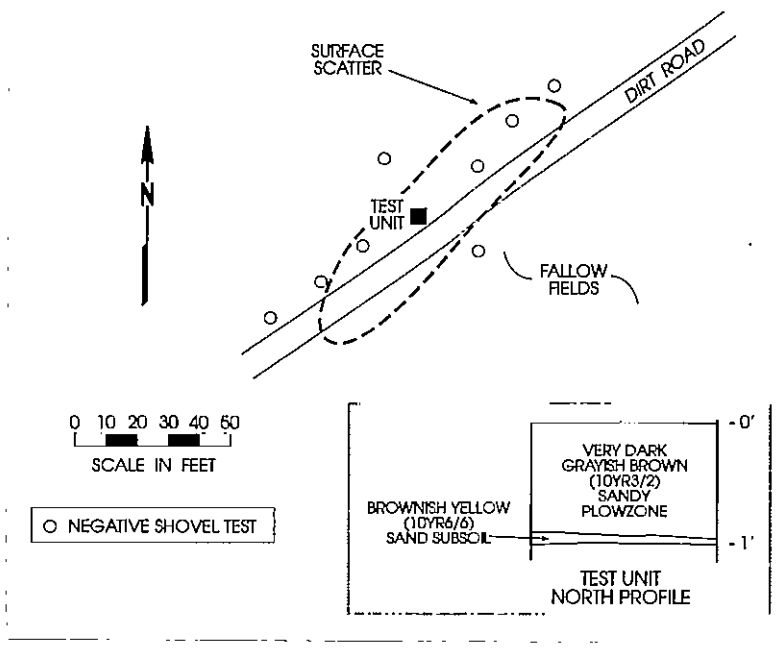

Figure 31. Sketch map and profile for 38BU1721.

Deptford Check Stamped sherds, one unidentifiable prehistoric sherd, three chert flakes, two fragments of quartz shatter, one quartz core, and one quartz hammerstone. These materials were found spread over an area measuring about 100 feet northeast-southwest by 20 or 30 feet northwest-southeast (Figure 31).

In an effort to further explore this site, it was cruciformed by eight shovel tests at 25-foot intervals. All of these tests were negative. In addition, a 2-foot unit in the center of the site was also negative. This test reveals about 0.95 foot of very dark grayish-brown (10YR3/2) sandy loam plowzone overlying a brownish yellow (10YR6/6) sand subsoil.

This site is primarily of interest because of the lithic materials . While these lithics are a rare data set, especially for the project area, there are very few additional materials. Few sherds were recovered, there is no evidence of faunal or floral remains, and the shovel tests do not indicate any buried remains. The site is very small, possibly elongated by the road. It appears that the site has been completely destroyed by either the bisecting road or cultivation. In any event, we recommend the site as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register.

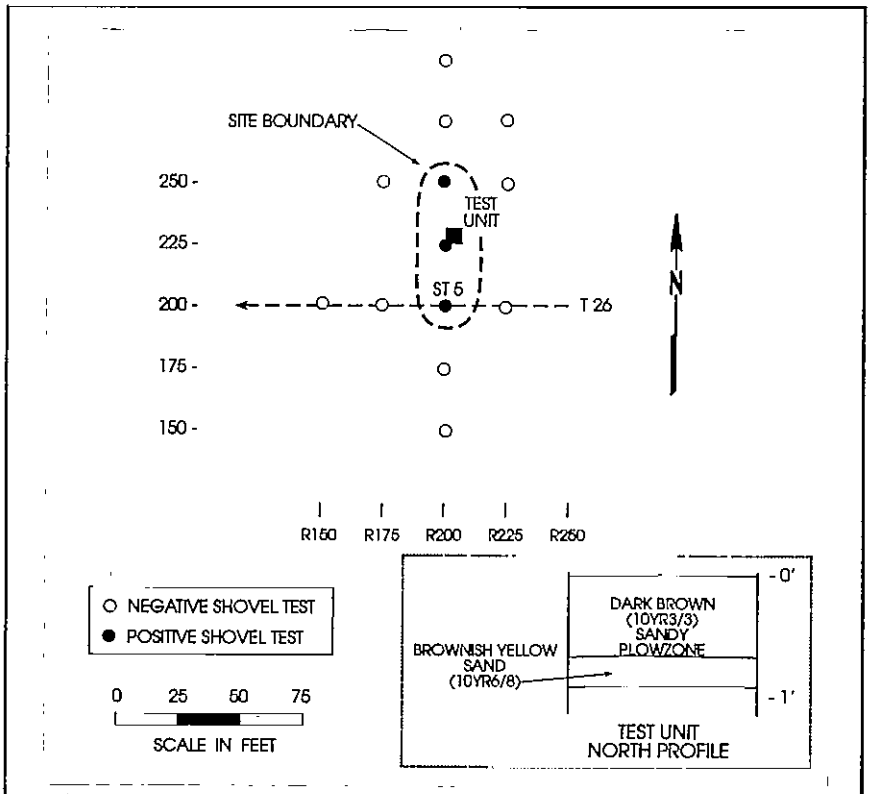

Figure 32. Sketch map and profile for 38BU1722.

38BU1722

Site 38BU1722 is situated at the north edge of the survey tract in the northwestern fallow field. The area is best described as an interior plain with no close water or marsh source (tributaries of Sawmill Creek are about 1,000 feet to the east and west of the site). The central UTM coordinates are E513940 N3570800 and the elevation in the site area is about 18 feet AMSL.

The site was first encountered in Shovel Test 5 on Transect 26 (later designated 200R200 for testing purposes), with the recovery of a Deptford Check Stamped sherd. In spite of good surface visibility (in excess of 50%) a survey inspection of the site area failed to reveal any additional materials. A very light scatter of shell was noted, but it appeared too spotty to assist in estimating the site size.

In order to better establish the site boundaries, as well as to explore site density and diversity, the are was cruciformed with shovel tests at 25-foot intervals (Figure 32). Two additional tests — both to the north of the initial test — were positive. Shovel tests 225R200 and 250R200 both

produced single small sherds. Tests to the east, west, and south failed to reveal any additional materials. A 2-foot unit was excavated in the middle of the identified scatter, but failed to produce any additional materials. The unit did reveal a dark brown (10YR3/3) sandy loam plowzone overlying a brownish-yellow (10YR6/8) sand subsoil. Although the soils in this area are classified as Seewee, this unit is more representative of Wando soils, suggesting that the site may occupy a small area of better drained soil.

The data sets from this site are very sparse, consisting of only pottery. In addition, the quantity of material is very limited and there is no indication of intact midden deposits. In fact, it appears that the site may have consisted of a single, small shell midden which was dispersed by plowing. The site does not appear able to address the broad range of questions appropriate for Early Woodland sites in the Beaufort locality. Consequently, we recommend this site as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. With the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office no additional management activities are necessary at this site.

38BU1723

Site 38BU1723 was encountered during a pedestrian survey of the low, wet woods in the central southern portion of the survey tract. The site is situated about 50 feet north of an old dirt road which runs from the cultivated fields at the southern edge of Crescent Plantation eastward, into the very low bottoms. Portions of this road were flooded during the survey, evidence of the very poor drainage in this area. The central UTM coordinates for the site are E513940 N3570800. The site is found on a terrace overlooking a creek or slough draining northward into Sawmill Creek. The elevation is about 10 feet AMSL and the vegetation is dominated by hardwoods with a very sparse understory of palmettos (Figure 33). Surface visibility was near zero because of the dense leaf litter.

Initially the survey encountered two holes. One measured about 6.5 feet deep and had its spoil dumped primarily along the southern and western margins. The other hole was more oval and was only 4.5 feet deep. There was noticeably less spoil associated with this second depression, although some mounding was present. In addition, a row of four crepe myrtles were found to the west of the depressions, running perpendicular to the dirt road (Figure 34).

A series of four transects (numbered from 104 to 107) were laid out running north-south through the depressions at 25-foot intervals. Shovel tests were excavated along these transects at 25-foot intervals. Shovel Test 2 on Transect 106 was positive, yielding a single stoneware ceramic. None of the other tests produced material. All of the shovel tests revealed fine gray sands characteristic of highly reduced soils and typical of such wet conditions. The soils in this area are classified as belonging to the Seewee series.

Because the shovel tests had failed to identify any site core, no test unit was excavated. In addition, the site dimensions of about 100 feet north-south and 150 feet east-west are based on encompassing the various identified features.

This is a very interesting site. Although only one traditional artifact (the stoneware fragment) was recovered, there are landscape alterations — a road, the plantings, and the two depressions — which suggest that some activity took place at this location. We considered the possibility that the depressions represent stills, but there were no glass container fragments, no metal piping, or other debris typical of such sites. There was no evidence of wood charcoal or burning. Excavation in the base of both depressions produced only clean sand below the recent humus deposits. We also considered that the depressions might have been for watering cattle, but at least the larger of the two is far too steep and neither appears to have penetrated the water table (although both were wet).

In sum, we have been unable to account for the features and activity which took place at this site. While we dislike leaving the site unexplained, the data sets are very limited and it seems unlikely that the site can address significant

Figure 33. View of 38BU1723 from the dirt road looking north.

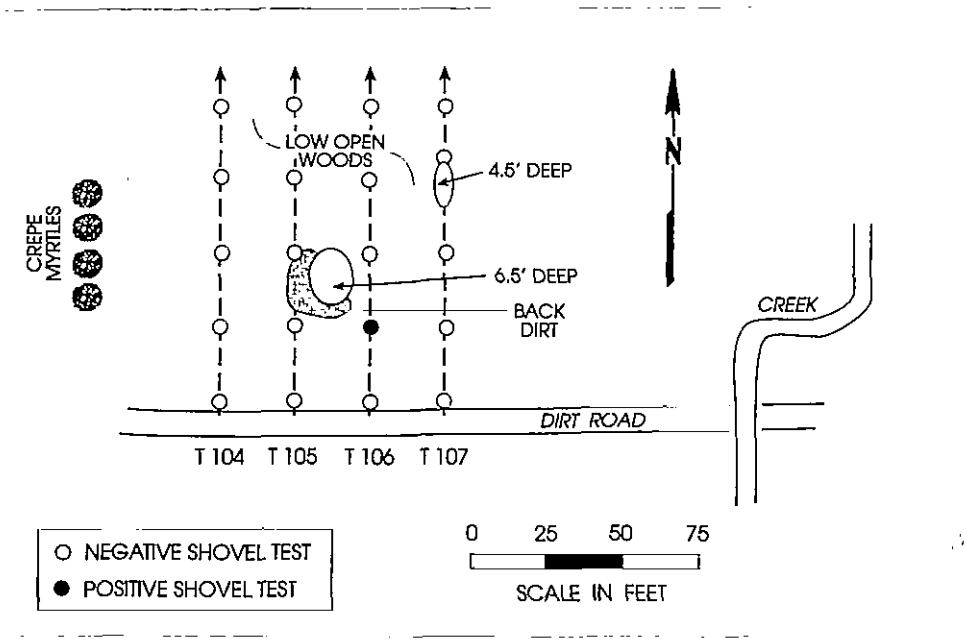

Figure 34. Sketch map of 38BU1723.

research questions. Consequently, we recommend this site as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. With the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Officer, no additional management activities at the site should be necessary.

38BU1724

This site was encountered during 100-foot shovel testing on the southwestern edge of the survey tract, immediately north of a new housing development. The central UTM coordinates are E514900 N3568820 and the site is in an old field, now in planted pines. The topography gradually slopes to the west, toward a drainage which is in dense hardwoods and formed the western boundary of our shovel testing efforts in this portion of the survey tract.

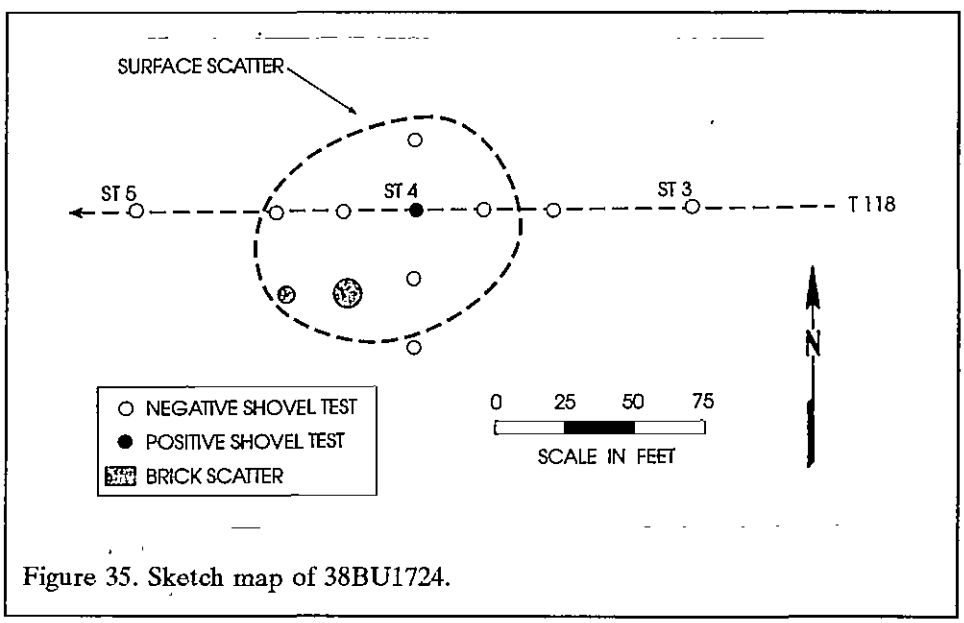

Figure 35. Sketch map of 38BU1724.

In the site area the elevation was about 10 feet AMSL and the soils are classified as Ridgeland sands. Surface visibility is limited by pine needles, but the understory is very light.

Shovel Test 4 on Transect 118 produced what appears to be a modern example of a tortoiseshell or clouded ware ceramic. The site was cruciformed off this shovel test, with all of the other tests being negative (Figure 35). The pedestrian inspection of the site area revealed two scatters of modern brick, some of which were still articulated with cement mortar, although the mass was displaced. Also identified were several sheets of roofing tin. The inspection also produced another example of the modern tortoiseshell or clouded ware, as well as an undecorated whiteware. Also present, but not collected, were several unidentifiable iron masses, perhaps representing very corroded iron stove fragments.

The remains from this site were clustered in an area measuring about 100 feet north-south by 200 feet east-west. This area was more heavily grown up than the surrounding woods and included several hardwood trees. When ca. 1970 aerial photographs of the area are examined, this field is clearly shown being cultivated and there is a small hardwood grove in the vicinity of the site. The site probably represents a tenant house in the corner of the field. When the land went out of cultivation the house was apparently removed. Based on the amount of disturbance observed in the testing, and the near absence of materials, it is likely that it was bulldozed. This demolition technique, observed at other coastal plain sites, has been found to significantly reduce the artifact density of sites.

Based on the limited data sets and the amount of damage to the site, we are recommending 38BU1724 as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. With the concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office no additional management activities will be required.

CONCLUSIONS

Introduction

As a result of the intensive survey of the approximately 650 acre Crescent Plantation southeast of Rose Hill and north of the town of Bluffton in Beaufort County, ten archaeological sites were identified and assessed. Of these, eight are recommended as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places.

One site, 38BU1713, is recommended as eligible for inclusion on the National Register under Criterion D, that it has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. This site includes a range of prehistoric components, dating from about 2200 B.C. to as late as perhaps A.D. 1400. Of special interest, however, are intact middens associated with Stallings phase materials.

This site is found in a fallow agricultural field and on a residential lot. Portions of the site have received fairly intensive shovel testing, as well as the excavations of several 2-foot units. These tests have documented a wide range of data sets and have also demonstrated that the site possesses very high integrity.

It seems unlikely that the site, given its size, can be avoided by construction activities. One approach suggested by Centex Homes is "banking" the site, preserving it under a gold course. This approach to site preservation is not well documented in the archaeological literature. The single best authority concerning site protection methods, *The Archaeological Sites Protection and Preservation Notebook*, published by the Environmental Impact Research Program of the Army Corps of Engineers, offers ambiguous and often very limited, even contradictory, conclusions regarding the effectiveness of this approach.

For example, the document, "Experiments on the Effects of Site Burial on Archaeological Materials," found only limited damage in one study setting, and a variety of recommendations are offered. These include:

- sites proposed for burial should be subjected to sufficient excavation to document the site prior to burial;
- a permeable geotextile fabric should be placed over the site prior to burial and this should be followed by 1 to 3 feet of uncompacted fine-grained soil, i.e. DG, followed by normal fill;
- fill should minimize chemical contamination of the site;
- fill placement should avoid damage to the surface or near-

Table 7.
Archaeological Sites Identified in the Project Tract

Site Number	Components	Site Size (ft.)	Eligibility
38CH1711	Prehistoric and Historic	75x125	NE
38CH1712	Prehistoric camp	125x175	NE
38CH1713	Prehistoric middens	800x300	E
38CH1714	Historic plantation	500x150	NE
38CH1715	Historic - manager's house	200x175	PE
38CH1720	Historic - tenant house	170x80	NE
38CH1721	Prehistoric and Historic	100x20	NE
38CH1722	Prehistoric scatter	60x20	NE
38CH1723	Historic	100x150	NE
38CH1724	Historic - tenant house	100x200	NE

NE = not eligible for inclusion on the National Register
PE = potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register
E = eligible for inclusion on the National Register

surface of the site, which requires avoidance of site deposits by construction traffic;

- a plan should be developed to allow later access to the site, if necessary;
- the location of the site must be formally delineated so that it can be relocated as necessary; and
- the burial plan should evaluate the affect of the water table and any associated changes on the site.

In contrast to this approach, "Site Burial as a Means of Preserving Archaeological Sites," takes a more conservative approach, noting that site burial is likely to have detrimental impact on a variety of archaeological materials, including faunal, floral, and shellfish remains — all of which are significant components of 38BU1713. In particular, the article warns of a number of potential problems, including a more acid environment, compression caused by increased soil weight, wet-dry conditions, and increased levels of microorganisms.

In other words, there seems to be little available information on the appropriateness of this particular approach. Certainly the precautions recommended by "Experiments on the Effects of Site Burial on Archaeological Materials" seem minimally appropriate. To these we recommend careful review of the comments offered by Trinkley (1994:79-83) on site burial at Charleston National Golf Course.

The other site, 38BU1715, is recommended as potentially eligible for inclusion under Criterion D, that it has yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history. The potentially eligible site has been evaluated as possibly capable of addressing significant research questions regarding late nineteenth and early twentieth century ownership in the Lower Coastal Plain of South Carolina.

The site is found in a fallow cultivated field and a grab collection, coupled with limited shovel testing, yielded a fairly large number of artifacts, with many more present but not collected. It is possible, based on the current documentary evidence, that the site is the home of a property owner or manager. The artifacts appear to be somewhat higher status and certainly the quantity of materials present seems significantly higher at this site than others (especially so-called tenant sites) in the immediate area.

If the site can be avoided by construction activities then no additional work is necessary to complete the evaluation process. The sites can be "green spaced" and protected through a historic easement.

If this is not possible for the site then it will be necessary to collect additional information in order to determine whether the site is eligible for inclusion on the National Register.

We recommended that the site be plowed, allowed to be rained on, and then subjected to an intensive, close interval, controlled collection, coupled with both formal excavations and collection of oral history. This approach has been used with very good success at other sites and is likely to produce the required information in a cost-effective manner.

It may be that this level of effort will be adequate to address the research potential of the tested site. If so, then the site will be evaluated as not eligible for inclusion on the National Register. Alternatively, it may be that the site will be found eligible for the National Register, indicating that it does contain additional significant information. Under these circumstances, it is still possible to green space the site, simply avoiding it. Or, it will likely be possible to conduct data recovery excavations at the site, which will allow the significant information to be collected. Afterwards, no additional management activities at the site will be necessary and the land may be used as necessary.

Late Discoveries and Cemeteries

While unlikely, it is always possible that additional archaeological sites may be present on the tract, but were not identified during these studies. Contractors should be made aware that if brick concentrations, pottery, arrowheads, bottles, bone, or other potentially historic remains are encountered work should be suspended and either Chicora Foundation or the State Historic Preservation Office should be notified. These late discoveries should be evaluated prior to any construction related activities.

Cemeteries are among the most difficult of all sites to identify, even in an intensive survey. We have found no indication of burial grounds on the study tract — none are shown on any of the historic maps or plats, there are none indicated on the soil survey, and there are none indicated on the identified modern historic documents. The intensive survey failed to encounter any areas which appear to be burial grounds. Nevertheless, that two antebellum plantations (Crescent and Trimbleston) existed in the survey area strongly suggest that African American cemeteries may be present. Slave burial grounds were often associated with plantations and continued to be used in the postbellum. As a consequence, development activities must always be especially careful if bones, gravestones, or other features are found. It is a felony under South Carolina law to disturb burial grounds, even those which are not marked.

Site Locations and Methodological Considerations

This survey is of special interest since it failed to identify the normal range of plantation activities typically associated with low country tracts. Although the property is a historic plantation, traced back to the early nineteenth century, it appears to have seen relatively minor development. The survey did encounter one site, 38BU1714, which exhibits materials appropriate for this period. It appears, based on the limited information available, to be a manger's or overseer's settlement. Badly plowed, there remains no architectural information and only limited data sets for domestic activity.

Missing is any resemblance of a slave settlement. This suggests that Pope, and perhaps earlier owners, rotated slaves from other plantations to this one as necessary. Given the close proximity of Pope's holdings this would have been a cost-effective approach for helping to make marginal lands economically viable.

Site density in the survey tract is very low — 1 site every 65 acres — especially when compared to some of the surrounding tracts. Yet this is almost certainly the result of the plantation's low, poorly drained soils that hampered development over the past 200 years. In fact, it appears that even prior to the historic era, Native Americans also avoided much of the tract in favor of nearby sandy ridges offering better drainage and, perhaps just as importantly, better access to the marshes and creeks. Comparison of Figures 5 and 20 reveals that 50% of the sites are found on Wando soils, 30% are on Seewee soils, and the two remaining sites are on Ridgeland and Baratari soils. The preference for sandy, well-drained soils, is very strong, especially considering that so much of the Crescent tract consists of Baratari, Polawana, Rosedhu, Ridgeland, and Seabrook soils.

Finally, it is worthy of mention that several of these sites, including those recommended as eligible and potentially eligible, were either missed or nearly missed by traditional shovel testing methodology. This should be no surprise and concerns with shovel testing have been reported in several previous Chicora studies. Nevertheless, shovel testing, typically at 100 foot intervals. remains the most common approach for site identification.

While there is not likely to be any alternative methodology that performs better, it is nevertheless important to recognize the limitations of shovel testing and the importance, where possible, of combining alternative approaches of site discovery. We had, for example, encouraged the plowing of the Crescent tract, allowing a combination of shovel testing with a pedestrian survey. This, unfortunately, was not possible. Work in other locations, however, suggests that such an

approach is much more likely to identify the full range of archaeological sites present (see, for example, Trinkley et al. 1996:139).

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